Newsmagazine for Northern California's Gay Community and Its Friends

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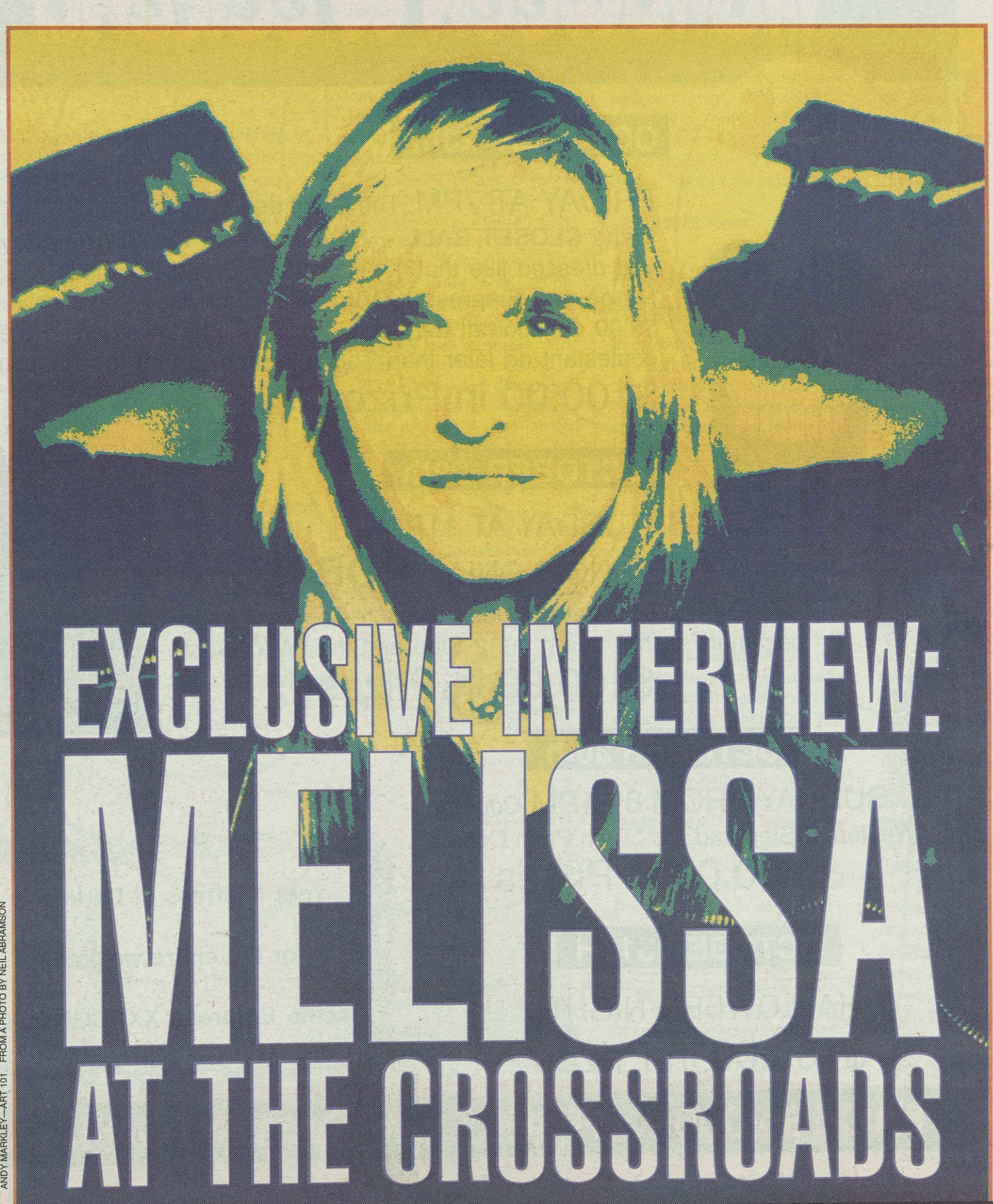
mid-october
ninety-four

the latest

volume six
issue six



ANDY MARKLEY—ART 101 FROM A PHOTO BY NEIL ABRAMSON

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MELISSA
AT THE CROSSROADS

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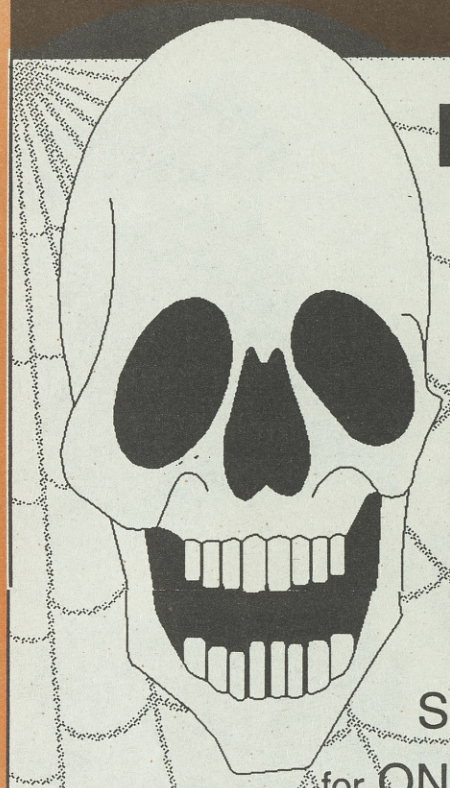
FACES presents

Tales Of The Crypt Halloween Weekend



OCTOBER 28th

FRIDAY AT 7PM The Crypt doors, under the Big Top, open to the **CLOSET BALL - "Queens from the Crypt"** (Why are you dressed like that?) - Hosted by Grand Dutchess X, Large Marge and Empress XXVII of San Francisco, Motzarella. $5.00 donation at the door. Prizes will be awarded. Enter your contestant no later than Thursday from 6-9 at the Mercantile

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Really I Must Say!

Even Liberals Must Have Limits

by Michael R. Gorman

I still drive with my window down. Maybe I always will. It's not unusual to see me cruising over the Bay Bridge at night with my heater blasting, and the cold ocean air rushing over my left shoulder. It makes me feel safe. When I have a passenger, the swirling coldness can be a problem. My son jokes about it: "Dad, PLEASE close your window. I promise I won't molest you!"

You see, I used to escape from her into the woods. The forest was my grand protector. But then she would take me on one of those "Sunday drives" where we'd park on some old, deserted forest road, and I couldn't escape. I could see the forest inches from me, but the window kept me from being able to reach it. I knew the forest wanted to save me, but the window kept it out.

She told me she loved me. She told me no one else loved me as much as she. I believed her. Kids are believers. And mothers love their little boys. The pain in my gut was, therefore, my own fault. After all, she loved me.

At age 38, I'm still struggling with the shame of a lifetime of believing that the pain in my gut was my own fault. Reminders come in the most unlikely places. Like the freedom day parades.

North American Man-Boy Love Association. NAMBLA. They are a thorn in the side of every planner of a gay pride event. On the one hand they are an embarrassing confirmation to our enemies of the old myth that all gay men are indeed pedophiles. On the other hand, they are a challenge to our political sensibilities that make exclusion of anyone a vivid reminder of our own exclusion from society. Are we not as much anathema to the conservatives as NAMBLA is to us? How then can we justify doing to them what society has for so long done to us?

The answer, for all the breast beating and debate, is actually rather simple. It is evident in just a few of the values that we have embraced as a community:

1. A crime without a victim is not a crime, but an act that victimizes is a crime, whether or not it is illegal.
2. Sex should at all times be safe, sane and consensual.
3. Every individual has the right to choose her or his own path without interference, so long as those choices do not violate the right of others to do the same.

Our exclusion by society violates these values. Sodomy laws criminalize an act of love which does not have a victim and is nurturing and positive in its outcome. These laws and others that allow discrimination against us are based on nothing but prejudice.

continued on page 28

No Choice is the Only Choice

Dear Editor,

While I respect and enjoy the work of Michael R. Gorman, there are a couple of comments regarding "Freedom of Choice-Is Also Our Issue." (Mid-September). Really, I must say:

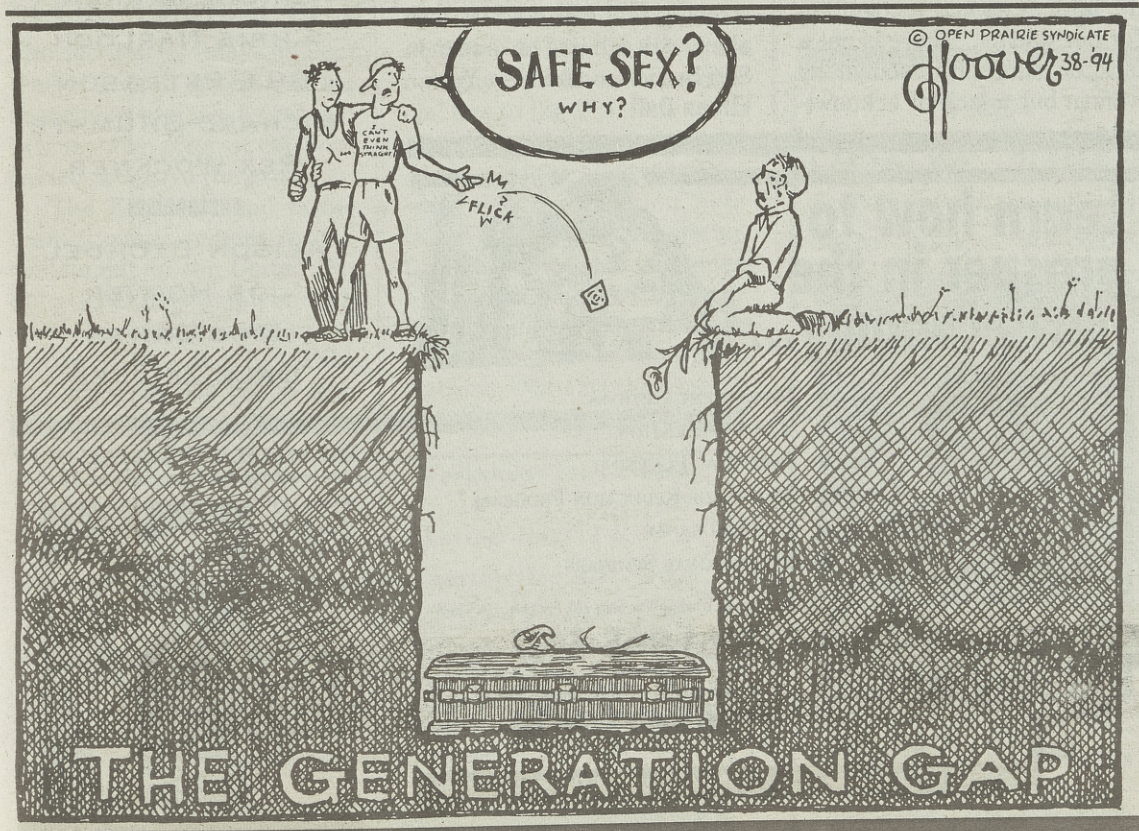
1) To continue calling the rabid dogs of rhetoric "Pro-life" (their term) or even "Anti-abortionists" (a term they avoid because it contains "anti") is to concede their assumptive right to label their perceived opposition (as "Pro-abortionists" "Murderers," etc.), and to unctuously label themselves. Strip away the rhetoric, stop the spin and take a look: these people advocate no-choice. Their correct term is "No-choicers." This is not just a matter of abortion, it is a concern (as Michael alluded to) regarding every facet and nuance of people's lives. From "Just Say No" to "Special Rights" one finds true darkness being spread by the No-choicers.

2) The "crusades" did not target the Moors but rather the Nation of Islam (the so-labeled "infidels"). Ostensibly to reclaim the "Holy Lands" (where Hebrew, Christian and Moslem religions each claim a birthplace), the crusades sacrificed hundreds of thousands of lives, the majority of which were children (teenage boys). It is interesting to note that Christian "churches" under the guise of divine direction, have orchestrated the deaths of more people (the crusades, the Italian and Spanish inquisitions, witch hunts and the genocide of indigenous North & South "Americans") than the combined wars of the last two centuries. So much for the "right to life."

To sum up: No-choicers have been and continue to be pawns of evil, responsible for the deaths of millions, eradicators of nearly all peace-loving cultures, unsurpassed torturers, seditious brainwashers, and—quite unapologetic about it. Let me also add that their cultural beliefs and practices produce bullies, rapists, child-abusers, warmongers. wife-beaters, serial murderers, and liars.

So much for "The Chosen People," as in: I am better than you.

Billie Jean Jones



Discrimination Hurts Us All

Dear Editor,

In regard to Mr. Gray's letter "Gay White Males Have It Tough," we would like to provide these counter arguments:

First, the argument that Gay White Males (GWMs) face different struggles than Lesbian/Bisexual/Gay (Lesbigay) People of Color is correct; however, historically, men, in general, and white men, specifically, have held most of the power in this country. Furthermore, lesbigay people of color who choose to be out to other people of color increase their chances of losing their cultural bond and face exile in being labeled an outsider to the community in which they've been raised.

Secondly, your point in which the GWM population has been decimated by AIDS is true; however, you are severely overlooking the fact that AIDS has touched the entire spectrum of society...latinas/os, blacks, Asians, Native Americans, women, children and hemophiliacs. AIDS sees no color.

Although discrimination laws have given women and people of color more access into mainstream society, the fact still remains that history has shown us that we continue to face covert and overt racism as well as a glass ceiling in most areas of employment.

Your letter continues to argue that "most gay Caucasian males are not protected from discrimination based on their sexual orientation." On this point we rhetorically ask you, "What lesbigay person---of color or white--- does not face discrimination based on sexual orientation?!"

As it may be true that People of Color and "Femi-Nazis" and "mean lesbians" criticize GWM/WM and the patriarchal institutions, it is not meant as a personal attack on individuals, but instead as a result to the oppression that has been felt by women, people of color and other minority groups throughout history. Though GWMs perceive discrimination based on sexual orientation, people of color and women have no protective shield that can hide color and gender.

Mr. Gray, the comments in your letter are the reason the nineties are becoming the "Nasty 90's." In a time in which community and coalitions should be a priority, your use of terminology and sexist comments have driven a larger wedge between yourself and the people you profess discriminate against you.

In conclusion, we would like to point out that your definition of discrimination as being based solely on sexual orientation, color and gender is incredibly limited. Discrimination is created from not only these factors, but also by class, age, ability, nationality, ethnicity (yes, they are different), religion, skin darkness, physical appearance, etc. In developing a "we vs. they" dichotomy, you continue to be reactive and not pro-active. Change only comes from creative endeavors of all and not by reactive statements such as yours.

Peacefully,
Gerardo Medina,
"Femi-Nazi"/Chicano
Pam Akins,
"Mean bisexual/lesbian"/African-American
Glenda Dillingham,
Native American Dyke
Aaron Carruthers,
Token White-Boy

We Aren't Us

Dear Editor,

Re: "Colorscope Embraces Minority Gays" (*the latest ISSUE*, Mid-September 1994): The founding members of the

continued on page 4

LETTERS

continued from page 3

new "Colorscope" group claim that they decided to start their group after they attended an event in which they felt that "people of color" were underrepresented. Jenny Kung, one of the founding members of the group, stated that they "wanted to go to events that looked like us." To be considered one of "us", how much pigmentation does a person have to have? The article describes a party that the group held in August in which apparently every group within the community was represented except for gay white males. Imagine the charges of racism and sexism that would occur if a group of white gays formed a similar group because "they wanted to go to events that looked like us?"

David Gray

Thanks For the Support

Dear Editor,

As owners of the new business, Constant Cravings, we want to express our thanks to our family of friends. Our "Family" has pitched in with paint brushes, hammers, weed pulling and anything and everything else you can imagine. They even chipped in together to purchase some advertising for our new business.

We opened one month ago and to our delight so many of our lesbian and gay community have rallied around and shown up at our doors. Word is spreading like wild fire and we are off to a great start.

Thank you all, your support warms our hearts.

We are very proud to serve you and provide the goodies you crave -- constantly...

Sincerely,
JoAnn & CathyAnn
Owners - Constant Cravings

Who Supports Local Music?

Dear Editor,

Those of us performers who do rock, generation X, or alternative music are hard pressed to find support within the lesbian/gay community for our music. Not only is there no place to play but we also bust our butts trying to get publicity, interviews and recognition for our talents. There is not a lack of music for womyn by womyn but a lack of acknowledgment that the music exists and acceptance from our local community of lesbian/gay bars, clubs and festivals. Instead people are brought from out of town or hired to do cover music. This is OK occasionally but isn't it time to support your local lesbian musicians on a regular basis?

Don't get me wrong, I am thankful for the support we do get. Thank heavens for Lavender Underground, The Gay Cable TV Program, The Rainbow Festival, The Lambda Center and The Buffalo Club for the times they have presented local talent. But we need to be able to make a few dollars to help us get our music out on records, CDs and tapes.

Some of us sing of our lesbianism and are totally out of the closet, and maybe, Sacramento, you just aren't ready for this kind of honesty and afraid to be seen really OUT.

I want to Stand OUT along with all my lesbian sisters who have the same need to perform their styles of music.

Sunny Bell

A First-Rate Film Festival

Dear Editor,

Applause to the founders and organizers of the Sacramento Gay & Lesbian Film Festival. I was so pleased and proud to see a festival of first-rate films and videos in this year's festival.

It takes a lot of time & effort by volunteers to get a film festival going. In three short years Sacramento has a festival that I strongly feel can hold its own along with others I have seen in San Francisco and New York.

Eileen Duff

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Around the Nation

Oregon And Idaho Face New Homophobic Legislation

by Stan Carlsen

Western neighbors in Oregon and Idaho are facing political campaigns designed to criminalize gay and lesbian activities.

Polls out of both states show differing measures of public opinion on Proposition 1 in Idaho and Oregon's Measure 13. The fate of these initiatives will be decided on November 8.

Polls show that the radical right has a lot of pull, with 48% in favor of the initiative

Idaho NO ON 1 Press Secretary Ryan Hill, himself a native, predicted that even though the state is generally conservative, "It's a hands-off conservative ...our coalition includes people from all walks of life," said Hill.

A "yawner" of a governor's race is the thing that strikes Oregon NO ON 13 spokesperson Dennis Brodigan as most troubling.

"Turnout concerns us. There are 18 measures on the ballot, tied for an all-time high," Brodigan said.

The religious right is strong in both states, especially in Idaho, where the Mormon Church has deep roots. Mormons are also well-established in Oregon, but that state is more politically diverse.

"We have a strong coalition of mainstream faiths whose leaders have preached against the Proposition," said Idaho's Hill. He added that 95% of Idaho's newspapers have come out against Prop. 1.

Press Secretary Brodigan says the press in Oregon has treated the issue as one of discrimination and not as a gay-rights issue.

"The backers of Measure 13 have very high negative numbers," said Brodigan.

Polls taken by papers in Idaho in September show that the radical right has a lot of pull, with 48% in favor of the initiative, and 42% against. 10% remain undecided. KPTV-TV of Portland, shows that Oregon voters stand 52% against Measure 13, with 37% for it and 11% with an undecided position.

Individuals outside both states can take part in weakening the anti-gay forces by calling toll-free 1-800-768-2221. This phone number is paid for by Lou Sheldon and is answered by the Capitol switchboard. The Rev. Sheldon uses this number to encourage fundamentalist church-goers to complain about the 'gay agenda'. Perhaps we can register an opposing opinion at their expense.

UN Expels Gay Association

by Michael R. Gorman

The International Lesbian and Gay Association (ILGA) has been expelled from the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations.

The decision was made on September 16 in a closed meeting of member nations, a year and two months after ILGA first gained access to the group.

The Economic and Social Council makes regular recommendations to the United Nations General Assembly on such matters as education, health and human rights, and the ILGA had access to the group with observer status. ILGA was the only gay organization with official ties to the U.N.

ILGA's trouble began last year when a right-wing anti-gay watchdog organization published a report in its newsletter, Lambda Report, that the United States was indirectly supporting pedophile groups through its contributions to the United Nations. Mainstream media picked up the story and Congress was pushed to react.

In January Senator Jesse Helms of North Carolina attached an amendment to a congressional Foreign Relations Appropriation Bill which re-

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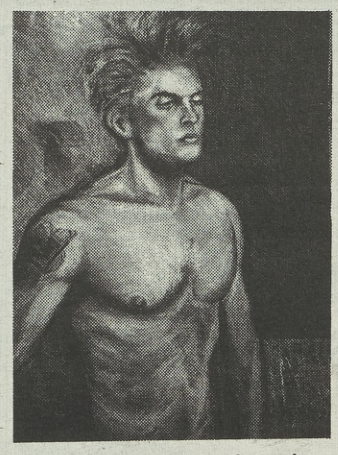

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Two Gay Men Murdered in Rural Mississippi

by **Richard Shumate**

Two gay men were shot in the head execution-style after leaving a party in a rural Mississippi county which has been in turmoil for months over a retreat run by lesbians.

The bodies of Robert Walters, 34, and Joseph Shoemake, 24, were found on the morning of Saturday, Oct. 8 by two women walking through a patch of woods about a mile north of Laurel, a town of about 18,000 people in the southeastern part of the state. One of the women told the Hattiesburg American newspaper that the underwear of one of the victims was down around his knees.

Walters vehicle was found a short time later in another part of Laurel, with blood inside.

The murders took place about 15 miles from Camp Sister Spirit, a feminist retreat whose lesbian owners have been repeatedly harassed by their neighbors over the past 10 months. Camp officials reported that shots were fired across the camp's property six hours after the bodies were found.

But local law enforcement officials, led by Jones County Sheriff Maurice Hooks, say they don't believe the murders were anti-gay hate crimes. In response, Mississippi gay activists and the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force have asked the FBI and U.S. Department of Justice to investigate the murders because they say they have no confidence in local law enforcement.

Walters and Shoemake left a party at Shoemake's home in Laurel on Friday night Oct. 7. Friends became alarmed when they didn't show up as scheduled at a friend's house Saturday morning. Their bodies were discovered a short time later. Both men had been shot in the head once with a small-caliber weapon, but autopsies found no evidence that either man had been sexually assaulted or beaten.

Hooks says he believes the murders were motivated by robbery because $100 was missing from one of the victims. He told a New Orleans TV station that the lowered underwear of one of the victims wasn't necessarily suspicious because the victims were homosexuals, according to Todd Emerson, a Biloxi gay activist who went to Laurel to monitor the police investigation.

The murders have left gays and lesbians in Mississippi shocked and fearful, according to Emerson. The families of the two men are refusing to talk to the press and are reluctant to talk publicly about the victims' sexual orientation.

"They're afraid. Jones County is the last place someone would want to be identified as gay," says Emerson. "We're hoping that people will start getting angry."

Amendment 2 Overturned

by **Michael R. Gorman**

Colorado's anti-gay hate law, Amendment 2, has been in legal limbo since its passage by a 53% majority of the Colorado voters in 1992. A lower court injunction had kept the law from going into effect while it wended its way through the legal system. It finally received a permanent injunction declaring it unconstitutional under the Colorado State Constitution and the United States Constitution.

On Tuesday, October 11 (National Coming Out Day), the Colorado Supreme Court ended speculation about the bull's final fate at the state level. In a clear 6 - 1 decision, the court declared Amendment 2 an un-

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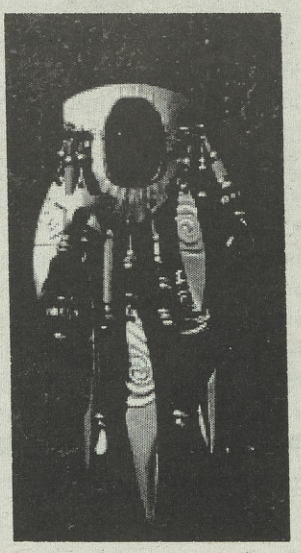

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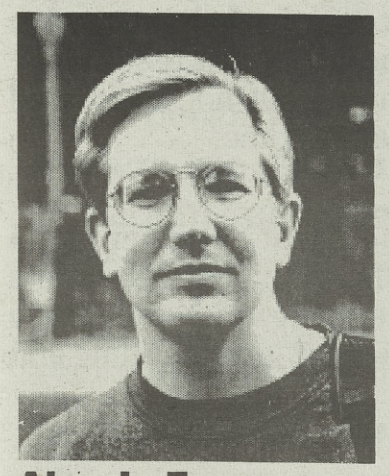
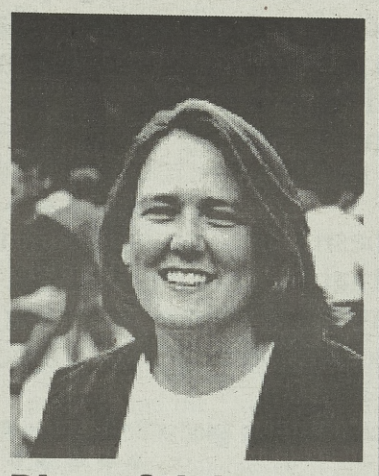


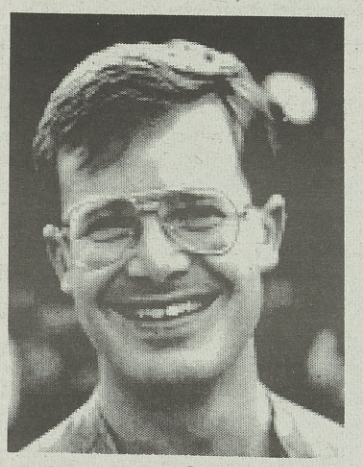
Alan LaFaso

"Yes. The only obvious answer to why anyone votes is, if anyone expects to have political power, one has to vote. If you want to have a king -- you want to have a dictator -- go for it -- that's what you get if you don't vote."



Diane Stickert

"Yes! I want Kathleen Brown to be our Governor. I think she's hot."



Michael Sestak

"I sure will vote. We want Tony Miller and Kathleen Brown to win."

Medea Karr

"Yes. I'm voting to have a voice in our community. I'm voting for good health care, reproductive and civil rights."

Barbra West

"There are issues I care about and people I don't want in office, and after I read an article in the *New Yorker* about Huffington, there is no way in hell I want him elected to anything."

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Quote Unquote

by **Rex Wockner**

"Democracies don't work unless minorities are protected."
— U.S. Sen. Sam Nunn, architect of the "don't ask, don't tell" policy against gays in the military, speaking at President Clinton's Sept. 19 press conference on Haiti.

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"I'm watching Hawaii politics right now and let me tell ya, if it gets to the point where they legalize gay marriage, I'll be the first in line. I'm totally going to do that. I don't see any reason why not."
—Rocker Melissa Etheridge to Denver's *Out Front*. Etheridge's partner is film director Julie Cypher.

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"I really had a hard time. I wasn't feminine enough."
—"Flashdance" actress Jennifer Beals to *Out Magazine* on being cast as a transvestite in the avant-garde film "Sons."

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"Steve is tired of being hounded. Elements of the gay community have waged an all-out war on Steve. The activists live in gay communities in New York and D.C. and have no idea what it's like for a gay congressman to survive politically in Middle America."
—Rob Morris, companion to U.S. Rep. Steve Gunderson (R-Wisc.) who has been outed repeatedly but has never actually come out, not even in the interview he and Morris gave to *The Advocate*, from which this quote came.

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"I think that if gay people think you're entertaining and funny, then you are. And if they do not think so, then you're not."
— Actress Carol Channing to the Pittsburgh gay newspaper *Out*.

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"I've always been monogamous in my relationships.... But I don't believe in monogamy. I have always been free and my lovers have always been free to fool around."
—Actor Harvey Fierstein to *Out Magazine*.

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"The first year (after breaking up with someone) you don't let anybody touch you. (But) now that I'm a whole adult, I'm learning to pick better. My number one criterion is that they're not crazy. I want him to be a little nutty, but not crazy. And above all, never boring. That's the worst crime."
— Fierstein to *Out*.

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"RuPaul doesn't have an ounce of the talent Sylvester had. I mean, not that I'm trashing RuPaul. He's fine... but Sylvester's (music) was much more raw and organic and completely uncontrived and coming from a much more innocent time and place than RuPaul."
—Comedian/actress/singer Sandra Bernhard to Atlanta's *Etcetera* magazine.

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"I feel the climate right now is better than it's ever been. I believe that everyone of us that comes out helps to pave the way and make it easier and maybe a little safer for those that come after us."
— Actress Amanda Bearse ("Married... With Children") to *Etcetera* magazine.

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"I noted that in previous acting jobs Meredith had been an addict, an alcoholic, a lesbian mother, a bulimic and a murderer. So I asked [her], 'What have they got against you?'"
— Journalist James Brady in a *Parade* magazine feature on Meredith Baxter. The Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation was aghast, saying, "lesbian motherhood has no place in a list of societal ills."

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"We have learned today the happiness of living proudly as lesbians and gays instead of living a lie. We hope that today's parade does not end up as just another party, but becomes the first step in Japan's lesbian and gay history."
— Parade Chair Teishiro Minami at Japan's first gay-pride march August 28.

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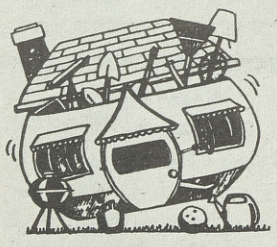

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Sacramento

The Log Cabin Club Supports Wilson Despite Vetoes

by Michael R. Gorman

President Bill Clinton's standing in the polls could be better described as sitting. Republican leaders are gleefully anticipating gains in national and state houses of government,

which has led Republicans in Congress to expend their energy obstructing legislation to keep the Democrats from gaining any fuel for the November fight.

Republican politicians around the country are seeking the support of the religious right, every major Republican presidential hopeful having made a pilgrimage to the national convention of Pat Robertson's Christian Coalition. Gay issues have not done particularly well recently, and anti-gay initiatives are spreading like California foothill fires.

So where are the gay Republicans standing in relation to all of this controversy? *The latest ISSUE* recently knocked on the door of the Log Cabin Club to find out.

Frank Ricchiazzi, Assistant Director of The Department of Motor Vehicles, a Wilson appointee, and the Executive Director of the Log Cabin's Political Action Committee, is not hopeful in the short term. He considers the Republican Party's swing to the right a temporary situation.

"I think it still has to play itself out. Rumor has it that Ron Unz is going to run for state party chair. That will lead to a whole series of crises."

Ricchiazzi compares the Republican Party's current woes to the decades of Democratic presidential losses brought on, he says, by the fielding of candidates like Walter Mondale and Michael Dukakis who were too liberal for the average American. Had the Republicans run

RINK FOTO

Log Cabin Club's Executive Director Frank Ricchiazzi.

moderates in the California Senate races, he does not believe Barbara Boxer or Dianne Feinstein would have won. He believes that enough losses by far-right candidates will drive the party back to the center.

(In a move that reflects Ricchiazzi's hope for a swing back to the middle, voters in Tavares, Florida this month voted in a Republican runoff to remove from the school board members of the Christian Coalition. Those members had supported a policy that forced the public schools to teach that American culture is superior to all others.)

"In the meantime we are biding our time, waiting for the party to get back to its roots. The Log Cabin Club is one of the best organized Republican volunteer groups in the state. We are very focused. We have more of the principles of the true Republican party."

During the wait, Log Cabin Clubs are looking for candidates they can support on the local level, as well as a few at the state level. Their energies go toward those campaigns rather than toward the party as a whole.

Ricchiazzi does continue to support Governor Pete Wilson. He claims Wilson's recent veto of the domestic partnership legislation happened because its opponents got to him first and framed the debate. "We should have come in earlier." He also says, "The governor's veto message could have been better given."

Of the bill, Ricchiazzi said, "The California Bar Association has been working on the question 'What is Family?' But the study isn't done yet. Before we pass a statewide law, we need to clearly define family."

He refers to Wilson's opponent, Kathleen Brown, as "Fluff Brown" and "a pandering loser." Claiming that Wilson has been on the side of the gay community 75% of the time and that the vetoes of AB101 and AB2810 were not how Pete Wilson feels in his heart, he says of Brown, "Here is a person who has a mock veto ceremony outside the Capitol the day after Wilson vetoed the domestic partnership bill, and she doesn't even

continued on page 16

Pete Wilson Vetoes AIDS Bills

by Michael R. Gorman

With the winding down of the current legislative year, the LIFE AIDS Lobby has made a review of the year, summarizing how well AIDS issues fared in the state government.

Robert Rios, Legislative Advocate for LIFE, said of the year, "We made some significant progress this year in combatting HIV disease, but we also suffered some staggering defeats."

Among the success stories of 1994 was the state budget, an arena where the lobby expended considerable effort. In a large part because of lobbying efforts organized by LIFE, the budget included 5 million additional dollars in prevention, testing and counseling. This was the first such budget increase in five years.

LIFE AIDS Lobby also successfully sponsored a bill which will create the Office of AIDS, a state office to coordinate all state government efforts to address the epidemic. Another bill which Wilson signed created a pilot program of early intervention for women with AIDS. Still another removed roadblocks from homeless and runaway youth attempting to obtain work permits. The new procedures are designed to help youth find jobs more easily and avoid involvement in risky sex trade for survival.

Among the staggering defeats to which Rios referred is the September 30 veto of the needle exchange bill. Wilson continues to ignore the recommendations of the Health Community which points to strong evidence that clean needle exchange programs slow the spread of HIV. In vetoing the program for the third time, Wilson cited the possibility that such programs could lead to increased experimentation with drugs. That claim has long been refuted by the evidence in such test trials and by the National Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Wilson also vetoed a bill which would have allowed the medical use of marijuana for people with AIDS and other life-threatening diseases. Marijuana has been shown to ease discomfort in such patients, including glaucoma sufferers, with few side effects. It has also been shown to positively treat the nausea and wasting often associated with cancer and AIDS.

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Mr. Wade Goes To Washington

by Stan Carlsen

One of the few promises that Bill Clinton has been able to keep as president is his commitment to channel the energies of America's young people into neighborhood involvement and community service.

Since late last year, youth from all over the country, chosen for their charitable activities, have been recruited to join the AMERICORPS program. AMERICORPS is to the nineties what JFK's Vista Volunteer program was to the sixties.

Among those chosen to participate in the national service program is Sacramento's Torrance Wade, a Community Outreach worker at the Lambda Center. The dynamic 21-year-old was contacted by a local United Way representative acquainted with the Lambda Center's Director Joanna Cassese. Wade was told to be ready to go to Washington D.C. for a week of orientation at the end of September. His term of service begins, appropriately enough, on October 11 — National Coming Out Day, and runs for one year.

"Joanna thought I'd be the perfect candidate," says Wade, "but there was a catch. Because cause I had already worked at the Lambda Center, I couldn't return there for my AMERICORPS service," he added.

Cassese feels that even though she is losing Wade as a staff member at the Center, the opportunity was too good to pass up.

"We are certainly going to miss Torrance. He was the bright spot, his smile lights up a room," Cassese said. "But the enthusiasm and positive impact that he had here will be of great benefit wherever he goes in the community. It's like having a member of the family leave," she lamented.

While he does not yet know where he will be placed in the community, Wade looks forward to working in the HIV/AIDS arena, focusing on quality-of-life and preventative issues and on educational programs.

There are five agencies in the Sacramento community serving people with AIDS, other than the Lambda Center, that have been chosen to host participants in the national service program. They are: the AIDS Housing Alliance, the Women's Civic Improvement Club, California Emergency Foodlink, the Sacramento AIDS Foundation, and the Center for AIDS Research, Education and Services (CARES).

Wherever he goes, Wade will be paid a monthly stipend of around $600 for 1700 hours of community work. At the end of one year, participants are awarded $4500 to go toward their education. Wade needs the money for student loans he has received.

"Bill Clinton's idea is to get young people to continue their education," says Wade, "and also to show us that if we care for our communities, the benefits will be great."

Gang Graffiti Hits Lambda Center Again

by David A. Borad

On the evening of September 12, the Sacramento Lambda Community Center became another victim of the escalating gang problem facing our community.

That night, a local gang (The Del Norte 14th) defaced the back half of the building with graffiti. This is not the first time the aging Victorian building has fallen prey to such attacks. Earlier this year the Oak Park Bloods defaced the building with derogatory sayings. This time was different because the graffiti markings were territorial, not directed at the community center, and instead were the gang's way of saying the building was in their territory.

Joanna Cassese, the director of the center, discovered the graffiti early on the 13th and immediately reported it to the police. The police, although they have been as responsive as possible, do not have the resources to do much more than take a report and briefly examine the site. Thanks to the help of Noel Eusebio, and the graffiti abatement program he runs, the center's staff has been educated on how to identify the gang markings, and have been supplied the materials to wipe out the offending graffiti as soon as it appears. Mr. Eusebio taught the staff that there is a great urgency to cover the writing immediately as it discourages the gangs from using buildings as billboards in a method of communication between gangs. The center is grateful for Eusebio's help.

The attack on the center has not yet been repeated, but there is an ongoing problem with loiterers at the center. "According to the police they are recognizable as gang members," said Ms. Cassese. The concern of the center now is to discourage the graffiti and eradicate it as soon as it appears, to prevent the center from becoming caught in the crossfire of violence between the gangs involved in this turf war.

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Gay/Lesbian Candidates Work To Make a Difference

by C. Michalski

It was not too long ago when minorities and women political candidates were rare, and even rarer were gay and lesbian candidates. Times have changed, through social and politcal activism.

Election day is less than 30 days out from this writing and there are many candidates running for local, state, and regional offices. The four candidates profiled in this article are gay or lesbian candidates, who are committed to public service and using this commitment to advocate for better government on every level.

Kearse McGill

In the never-ending saga of Sacramento Municipal Utility District, this year's Board race is definitely a watcher. In Ward 4, an especially heated race has produced an endorsement of Kearse McGill from Sacramento County Supervisor Illa Collin. "SMUD needs board members who know the difference between setting energy policy and micromanaging---someone who can build consensus and bring people together. Kearse McGill is such a person. I encourage you to join me in supporting him," Collin said.

McGill decided to run for the SMUD Board to "make sure that District 4 ratepayers have a representative who will put them first."

Disturbed by SMUD efficiency programs being attacked and diluted by Ward 4 incumbent Wendy Reid, McGill put his leadership and longtime activism to the test by announcing his campaign.

Since earning a degree in law, McGill has most recently worked as a legislative aide to state Senator Gary Hart, (D-Santa Barbara), specifically with consumer rights, domestic violence, and environmental issues. He has also served as the Chair for Young Democrats.

McGill's strategy is straightforward: lower rates by cutting costs, and promoting energy efficiency. McGill also thinks that SMUD should be more responsive to helping revive Sacramento's economy as a community partner, along with private industry, city and county governments, and the military, in development and expansion of new technologies.

Tony Miller

Acting Secretary of State Tony Miller is the Democratic candidate for the office. Generally, regarded as not a very exciting race, this Secretary of State's race has been receiving a lot of attention from national leaders in the Democratic Party. In fact, James Carville appeared at a fundraiser in Los Angeles for Miller and there are even rumors of a campaign stump on Miller's behalf by Vice President Al Gore before the season is over.

Why the commotion? Miller's election to the Secretary of State Office is believed to be pivotal to the Democrat's success in implementing the "Motor Voter Law," a federally mandated program which could conceivably register thousands of new Democrats. Gov. Wilson has refused to implement the law, calling it unfunded and a potential bid for voter fraud. The National Voter Registration Act of 1993 requires states to develop a system by January 1, 1995, which allows citizens to register to vote when they apply or renew a driver's license, visit a social welfare office, or military recruiting center. Wilson's refusal to carry out the federal law provoked Miller into filing suit against the governor for not complying in a timely manner.

Miller has been Acting Secretary of State since March Fong Eu was appointed Ambassador to Micronesia in 1993 by President Clinton. From 1981 to 1994 he served as Chief Deputy Secretary of State and as Chief Legal Counsel to the Secretary of State from 1976 to 1994.

Miller has long been an advocate for ensuring honest elections, campaign finance reform, truth-in-advertising initiative reform (introduced to enforce disclosure of industrial and private organizations which actually fund for media advertisements pro or con ballot initiatives), and for making the voting process more available to Californians. This race has been a tight one, primarily due to the attacks from the far right wing and their candidate.

> Miller is the first openly gay candidate to run for a statewide constitutional office. . .

Miller is the first openly gay candidate to run for a statewide constitutional office and the far right has used this to attack Miller, particularly in Central and Southern California. However, Miller is one of California's most admired and brightest public servants. He has the firm reputation of running an efficient administration and is committed to sustaining this tradition.

Miller graduated from UC Davis Phi Beta Kappa in 1970, and received a degree in law from Boalt Hall School of Law, UC Berkeley. He is a native Californian and according to his biography ..."a former Eagle Scout, an avid runner and a

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Coming Out Day Rally Celebrates Our Truth

by **Elaine M. Bready**

An Apache medicine woman once said to me, "the truth will set you free, but first it will make you mad." On October 11, on the west steps of our State Capitol, the truth set many people free and will undoubtedly, make many others mad.

National Coming Out Day found hundreds of gays, lesbians, transsexuals, transgendered, friends and family gathered together to speak the truth about who they are. As the truth came boldly forward, each person extricated themselves from the shackles of shame, blame and judgment and stepped forward to claim their inalienable right to freedom and personal happiness.

As each person walked toward the microphone, many of us took those deliberate, empowering steps with them. Each voice became another light turning on, illuminating the darkness of prejudice, fear and anger. Yet, I wondered what it was that compels and drives a person to come out in such a public way, opening themselves to the possibilities of targeted hatred, anger and violence from those who cannot tolerate any truth.

The answer to this question

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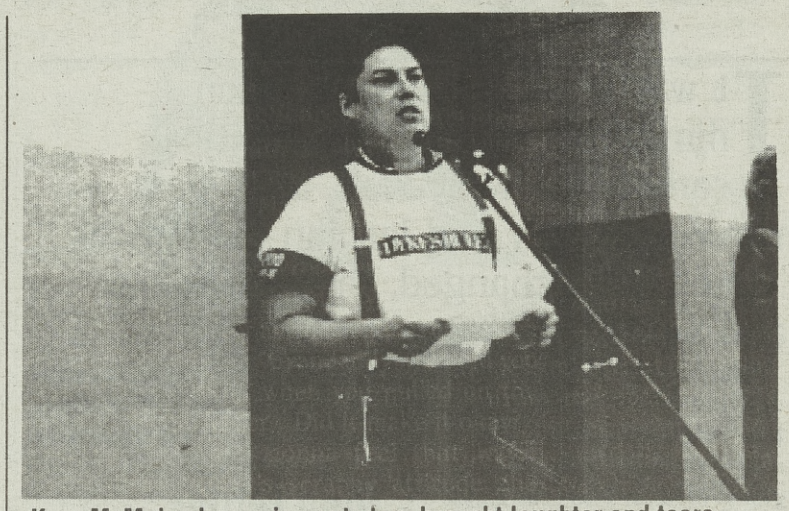

Kass McMahon's coming out story brought laughter and tears.

The Fairy Godfather's Spirit of Care

by **Kate Moore**

The Fairy Godfather Fund was established to help serve the needs of people with AIDS and has given a lot over the years. Now they hope to expand the services that they provide and the amount that they can give.

The Sacramento AIDS Foundation, in an attempt to maximize all community resources before tapping into their coffers, often looks to the Fairy Godfathers to help PWAs with some basic necessities. According to FGF President Steven Swart, "Rent, utilities and food are the top priorities, number two is medical and three is everything else."

Funds are raised for FGF through local events including auctions, drag performances and raffles. Last year the organization raised nearly $7000.

An organization plagued by infighting and bookkeeping discrepancies, has taken back control of the organization by hiring the accounting firm Whitney and Killick to manage the books and has moved its meetings out of the bars and into the Lambda Community Center. "It's time to reach outside of the bars -- to the community organizations and others to help people," said Swart, "All we can do (to overcome the past) is promote the positive things we are doing and hope the community will support this work."

Some of the other projects currently funded by FGF are monthly dinner service for the hospice patients at Hope House, six color televisions on permanent loan to Hope House and the AIDS wing of UC Davis Medical Center, and an annual Holiday Show at UCDMC.

To be able to take care of the needs of more people, FGF is asking for community members to make monthly donations, and for local businesses to give 1 percent of sales for a day. "People come to us as a last resort. These are proud people who are in need and we want to be able to help them," said Swart.

For more information on the Fairy Godfather Fund call (916) 448-9243 or to send a donation write to: Fairy Godfather Fund, 5735 Frontier Drive, Carmichael, CA 95608.

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San Francisco

Leather Week Highlighted by Mr. Drummer Contest

by **Michael R. Gorman**

The week of September 19-25 drew leather enthusiasts from around the world to San Francisco for Leather Pride Week.

Among the most popular leather events of the week were those surrounding the 1994 International Mr. Drummer contest sponsored by Drummer Magazine and Rob Gallery.

The week began with a fundraiser for the Leather Archives at The Eagle. A cornucopia of dances, theme parties, play parties and just-party parties began on Tuesday and continued almost non-stop through the week. On Wednesday the first major event of the contest took place at The Eagle, the contestant Basket Auction.

Each regional title-holder in the International Mr. Drummer contest brought a basket filled with gifts representative of his area. Some of the gifts were humorous, like the bound and gagged Mickey Mouse in the basket from Dennis Moniz, Mr. Florida Drummer, or the twin California bears, one master one slave, in the basket of Leo Lawhorn, Mr. Northern California Drummer. Food items and t-shirts representative of the various regions abounded. Most baskets included some leather accessory as well. Also popular were the free transportation, lodging and entertainment coupons offered in many baskets. The auction raised hundreds of dollars for the AIDS Emergency Fund.

On Friday the Leather Fetish Expo opened at the San Francisco Concourse with vendors of leather, chain mail, SM paraphernalia, and leather and SM publications. Games included a ring toss with dildoes as the posts and a stuffed latex glove "beanbag" toss through a hole strategically located in a cutout of a man's rear anatomy. While revelers wandered through the

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Mr. Northern California Drummer recieves the "Golden Whip Award."

POLITICAL

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weekend farmer. He and his partner of 20 years live on a small farm in Pleasant Grove, near Sacramento."

RINK FOTO

Carole Migden

A recent poll sent out to San Francisco City Hall regulars (aides, reporters, miscellaneous personnel and the supervisors) came back with good news for Carole Migden. Migden was rated first in intelligence, effectiveness, energy, and problem solving... and came in third in the category of integrity. Although pleasant results were welcome, it was no surprise to anyone that Migden's shining star is one to closely follow.

Migden has been recognized as a primary activist-leader in regional, statewide, and national political arenas for several years. In 1990, Migden was elected to the San Francisco Board of Supervisors, gathering 85,000 votes and sweeping the vote successfully in a majority of the City's neighborhoods. Now known as the "Lavender Sweep," Migden's leadership in neighborhood-to-neighborhood involvement was key to this victory.

Migden's background professionally is health care, and she has a Master of Arts in Clinical Psychology. As a Supervisor, Migden is the Chairperson of the Rules Committee, is a member of the Government Efficiency and Labor Committee and serves as Vice Chair of the Finance Committee of the San Francisco Transportation Authority. Migden is the representative to the State Legislative Committee for the Board of Supervisors. In 1992, she served as Chair to the Joint Task Force to Resolve the City's Budget Crisis. Her leadership with the task force and as Budget Chair established Migden as a leader in San Francisco city finances.

As an advocate for health, mental, and social services, she has also written legislation to expand these services while conserving city spending in order to provide additional essential services.

Migden has also served two terms as Chair of the Gay and Lesbian Caucus for the California Democratic Party and the California State Platform Committee. The Platform Committee is responsible for development of how the Party stands on issues and Migden worked on the incorporation of health care issues, AIDS, and civil rights for gays and lesbians into the Party Platform. Migden was instrumental in the organizing push to pass AB 1, the first California gay rights legislation.

Susan Leal

On June 7, 1993, Susan Leal was appointed to the San Francisco Board of Supervisors. Leal is the first Latina to serve on the Board and she also serves on the Rules and Health, Public Safety and Environment Committees, as well as the San Francisco Transportation Authority, the city's Health Task Force and the Mayor's Juvenile Justice Task Force. Leal also serves as San Francisco's representative to the Bay Area Air Quality Management District Board of Supervisors.

Leal is a native of San Francisco and a first generation American. She received her B.A. in Economics in 1971 and her J.D. from Boalt Hall School of Law, UC Berkeley in 1975.

Leal's background includes serving as Counsel to the US House Energy and Commerce Committee's Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations. She was responsible for several investigations for the FDA regarding drug safety and consumer protection. Leal also worked as Subcommittee Counsel with Vice President Al Gore (then Congressman) to uncover fraud and waste in both public and private health care.

Leal worked as a staff consultant to the California State Assembly Committee on Ways and Means in 1981, and outlined the state's health budget for 1982 and 1983. Reportedly the state downsized expenses in health care by 25% while continuing excellent care programs.

Leal is a longtime advocate for the gay and lesbian community. Her leadership was instrumental in the successful bid to reinstate and extend the prevention of job discrimination based on sexual orientation at First Interstate Bank.

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LEATHER

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leather displays, the Mr. Drummer contestants submitted to a question-and-answer phase of the competition before the panel of judges.

On Saturday night at the Concourse, the crowning event of the Mr. Drummer contest began at 8 pm. The main show included the speech, fantasy and g-string posing portions of the contest. The night was co-hosted by comedian Shann Carr (who called herself "International Ms. Too-Bloated-To-Wear-Her-Leather," though the crowd's reactions to her frequent costume changes indicated she was being too humble) and Queens-born San Francisco comic Lurch (who seemed to delight in gender and fetish bending, as when he minced onto the stage — not easy for this huge bear of a man — in leather, delicately waving the boa he wore around his neck. That's boa as in "constrictor.")

Dress-up was the frequent subject of the humor between Shann Carr and Lurch. Shann Carr spoke of her tendency to dress inappropriately to make a statement that "rules of any kind suck." However she finds the leather community difficult to rattle. Once she showed up at a leather event wearing a white cotton babydoll dress. "I walked in and some big leather dyke said, 'Oooh, I love your First Communion fantasy!' Bitch!"

Later in the show Lurch launched into a hilarious monologue about the 800 help line printed on cans of Crisco. "You know those 800 lines are all somewhere in the midwest! Can you picture it? 'Pick up the extension, girls; it's another call from California! No sir, there isn't any easy way to get Crisco out of your sheets. But if you throw some frozen fries into the dryer, you'll have something to munch on as you fold your clothes. No sir, it's only with the oil that we promise it all comes back except a tablespoon full.'"

The show was produced by Audrey Joseph of Fantastic Realities Unlimited and choreographed by San Francisco dancer Charlie Selz. Although the g-string competition and the speeches were greeted with enthusiastic applause, by far the most popular part of the competition was the presentation of the acted-out erotic fantasies of each contestant. The range of fantasies was mind-blowing, from rough sex with an elf-abusing Santa Claus to the rape of a cop with his own equipment.

Particularly popular was Mr. Southern California Drummer Don Robert's fantasy about a future under the Presidency of Dan Quayle. Roberts is arrested and abused by the puritanically twisted Sex Police and strung up on a wooden scaffolding. In a dramatic turn, he is rescued by a knight in black leather. Interestingly, most of the fantasies seemed to have a moral, good-vs-evil underpinning, similar to the morality plays of the middle ages.

In the end it was Mr. Rocky Mountain Drummer, Keith Hunt from Denver, who was declared the new 94-95 International Mr. Drummer. The First Runner Up was Gary Welter of Baltimore, Mr. Mid-Atlantic Drummer. Don Robert of Southern California won Second Runner Up. The contestants themselves gave an award as well, voting for the contestant who was the most helpful, the friendliest and the most fun. That "Golden Whip" award went to Mr. Northern California Drummer, Leo Lawhorn. The other contestants teasingly referred to him throughout the Folsom Street Leather Fair the next day as "Miss Congeniality."

The fetish-bending of that title and the shimmering gold whip would have made Shann Carr and Lurch proud.

After several meetings with the sponsors of the contest, Keith Hunt told *the latest Issue*, "It's going to be a busy year. Fundraising. Travel. I had no idea! It's going to be an adventure."

Particularly popular was the fantasy about a future under the Presidency of Dan Quayle.

COLORADO

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constitutional violation of the equal protection clauses of both the state and federal constitutions, because it singled out one group of people to deny them basic rights.

Although Governor Roy Romer opposed Amendment 2, he was required to defend it in court on behalf of the state. Lawyers for the state argued that the law was in the interests of strong family values.

"The state has failed to establish that Amendment 2 is necessary to serve any compelling governmental interest in a narrowly tailored way," the majority opinion stated. Such a compelling governmental interest is legally necessary for any official breach of a citizen's basic rights. The opinion further states that Colorado has "no compelling interest in having a particular form of family."

The legal fight against Amendment 2 was led by The American Civil Liberties Union and the Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund. Attorney Suzanne Goldberg of LLDEF said, "This ruling is a decisive affirmation of lesbian and gay rights, and a crushing blow to the radical right's efforts to curtail important constitutional protections."

Amendment 2's passage led to a national boycott which cost the state at least $50 million in convention, tourist and other business.

Tensions over the amendment grew so intense, that many of the leading activists in the fight have since left the state. The former head of Boycott Colorado, Terry Schleder is now living in New York because she could not find work in her state after the battle.

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Russian River

It's Harvest Time - Remember Food For Thought

Food For Thought is a non-profit, grass roots organization dedicated to meeting the nutritional needs of all persons living with AIDS and HIV in Sonoma County. With an increasing case load (up 40% from last year), help is needed.

The organization is run by a paid staff of three, with a volunteer base of nearly 80. Since February 1989 when the first food was distributed to people in need, Food For Thought has gained county-wide recognition, and a respected place among local providers of AIDS/HIV services.

Two years later, Food for Thought volunteer Kathy O'Neill was honored by the Volunteer Center as Outstanding Adult Volunteer in Sonoma County.

The organization is about people helping people. They distribute groceries, nutritional supplements, basic dietary information, concern, caring and occasional hugs for free. Volunteers provide delivery service on a weekly basis to any client who is homebound because of illness or inability to drive.

Food For Thought can always use donations of wholesome canned, packaged, fresh and frozen food items as well as cash. Those with organic gardens are encouraged to share your harvest with people who will truly appreciate the food.

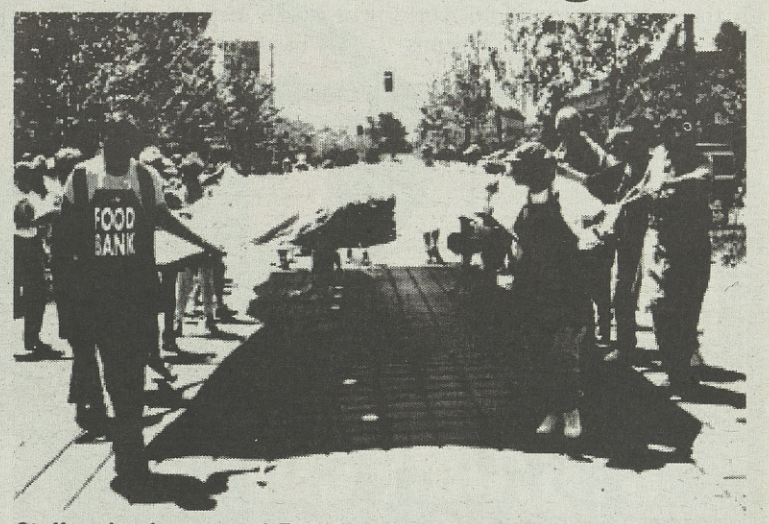
Other ways to contribute to this valuable community resource is by "adopting a shelf" at the food bank. Commit to funding a special food item, such as 50 dozen eggs, or cases of milk on a weekly or monthly basis. It is a great idea for a workplace project.

Upcoming events for Food For Thought include a new volunteer orientation meeting on Oct. 25, 7 p.m. And on Sunday, Oct. 30 Andrea Marcovicci will perform in concert along with the Santa Rosa Symphony to benefit Food For Thought. For ticket information contact the Symphony office at (707) 546-8742.

As the holiday season approaches the organization has many ways of contributing. Make your gift shopping easier. With each $10 donated, FFT will send out a card to someone on your gift list. The greeting inside the card reads; "Happy Holidays! In the spirit of the season, a client of Food For Thought, Sonoma County AIDS Food Bank, has been provided a festive holiday meal in your honor. Best wishes for Peace, Health and Love in the coming year."

Also in the spirit of the upcoming holidays, clients are being asked what special goodies would make them feel special. The Volunteer Center's "Giving Tree" program is in place to fill these special requests and a volunteer elf will fill the wishes the week of Dec. 20 - 23.

For more information contact Food For Thought at (707) 887-1647. The office is located at 6544 Front Street in downtown Forestville.



Staff and volunteers of Food For Thought marched in the Sonoma County Gay Pride Parade in June.

> The organization is about people helping people. They distribute groceries, nutritional supplements, basic dietary information, concern, caring and occasional hugs for free.

In 1991 the organization's volunteer program was awarded the Carnation Silver Bowl Award for the outstanding volunteer program in the County.

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UNITED NATIONS

continued from page 5

quired the United States to reduce its contribution to the United Nations by $118 million if the president could not certify that "no United Nations agency. . . grants any official status, accreditation or recognition to any organization that promotes, condones, or seeks the legalization of pedophilia, or which includes as a subsidiary or member any such organization." ILGA counted the North American Man-Boy Love Association (NAMBLA) among its members, along with a Dutch pedophile advocacy organization called Vereniging Martijn.

After statements encouraging ILGA's ouster made by Victor Marrero, United States representative to the U.N. Social Council, the council agreed that ILGA did not take a strong enough stand against pedophilia advocacy among its members.

Openly gay U.S. Representative Barney Frank also argued for the expulsion. He called it "nuts" to claim that pedophilia is a gay issue.

When the threat of suspension first arose last winter, ILGA decided to take up the issue at its World Conference in New York in June, during the Stonewall 25 celebration week. The group voted to revoke NAMBLA's and VM's memberships in order to keep its U.N. consultant status. However, in an article after the decision, The *New York Times* reported that the leadership of ILGA, when asked, said that it could not vouch for the fact that none of its member organizations condoned pedophilia.

NAMBLA reacted angrily to its ouster, attacking ILGA for being "morally bankrupt."

The Economic and Social Council has left open the possibility that ILGA will be allowed to regain its status once it has purged from its ranks any groups which advocate pedophilia.

LOG CABIN

continued from page 9

mention 2810. That is a friend? In her discussions she can't even say the "g" word. That is a friend?"

"Democrats should ask the question why they enjoy being pandered to. Republicans are honest; they hate you or they don't care. The majority of Republicans don't even think about it [gay sexuality]. It's not even an issue."

The president of Log Cabin California, Barbara Chiodo, agrees that sexuality is not an issue for most Republicans. "It is not the average Republican that cares who has chosen to have an abortion or who has turned to an alternative lifestyle."

Chiodo, however, is less gentle in her assessment of Wilson's veto. "I expected him to sign it. It was a non-controversial bill. It was a well-written bill. It had no financial impact. It simply gave one group the rights that another group already had."

Of the veto message, she added, "I'm straight, and I was appalled by it. His moralistic tripe was more than I could tolerate. I didn't expect a lot from him, but I didn't expect that." But she echoed Ricchiazzi by adding, "I don't believe that is how Pete Wilson feels in his heart. I have to believe he is being influenced by the far right."

The Log Cabin Clubs of California have endorsed only two candidates in the upcoming election, Matt Fong, who is running for the office of State Treasurer, and Michael Huffington, the freshman congressman and Texas oilman who is running for Diane Feinstein's U.S. Senate seat.

Chiodo, a past president of the California Republican Assembly, says that the members of the Log Cabin Club represent the mainstream of the Republican Party. "Most of them are fiscal conservatives. Most believe in a strong defense. Most are big businessmen. Social issues are not the ultimate for Republicans."

Of the future focus of the club, Chiodo says, "I joined the party of Abraham Lincoln. Who cared more about people's liberties? That's the party I belong to. I was appalled at the last Republican convention. We are fighting for our party."

WILSON

continued from page 9

Wilson also vetoed a bill designed to track AIDS in the Latino community.

He vetoed another that would have regulated the state's tattooing and piercing industries in order to prevent HIV transmission.

Yet another of his vetoes prevented Medicare supplemental insurance to people with disabilities. Another governor-vetoed bill would have allowed people with AIDS on Medi-Cal to choose specialty providers. And still another would have allowed pharmacists to adjust prescriptions for patients in home healthcare situations.

Some legislative analysts have complained that Governor Wilson's rash of vetoes in the last month have made this year's legislative session one of the least productive in recent years.

LIFE Lobby's Rios said of the health bill vetoes, "Taken as a whole, Wilson rejected a progressive healthcare package. Even more upsetting are the bills he did choose to sign into law."

Wilson signed SB1239 which allows involuntary testing of a patient's blood for HIV if a healthcare worker suspects there has been an incident that could have exposed that worker to the patient's blood. Medical experts testified that such testing does not provide reliable assurance of non-transmission because of the months when HIV can be in the blood without showing up on tests.

"The reasoning behind the law is chilling," said Rios. "The governor and the legislature apparently believe that it is acceptable to force a patient to be tested for HIV and let the results give healthcare workers a false sense of security instead of promoting universal precautions, better medical technology and counseling for an exposed worker."

Wilson signed a bill earlier this year that permits involuntary HIV testing of people convicted or just accused of certain sex crimes. That bill also expands disclosure of the test results.

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Melissa Etheridge

STANDING AT THE CROSSROADS

interview by Kate Moore

Melissa Etheridge describes herself as "intense" and the word is an understatement. In an interview with Etheridge prior to her Sacramento concert, the latest ISSUE was invited to look in to see what motivates the Grammy winning performer.

While her music is the driving force in her life, her relationship with her life-partner, Julie Cypher, is her love.

She has become one of the most vocal and visible activists for gay and lesbian rights since coming out at the 1992 inagural ball.

She and Cypher have done interviews in many mainstream publications including *People* and *Rolling Stone,* in which their words have broken through the misconceptions about what gay and lesbian relationships are about, and who we are as individuals.

Her music speaks to everyone, with lyrics dripping with emotion and sensuality. Her live performance rocks, and she builds and sustains excitement like a talented lover.

"It's about our rights on some level and saying that if we hold on, we can work through it. If we make every moment important and not let a single moment go by and keep it all precious... because every moment is precious."

Etheridge was discovered in 1986 when Island Records founder, Chris Blackwell came to hear her perform at a lesbian bar in Long Beach called "Que Sera." He signed her on the spot.

She has since released four albums: "Melissa Etheridge," "Brave and Crazy," "Never Enough" and "Yes I Am." She was nominated for a Grammy in 1989 for best female rock vocalist for the song "Bring Me Some Water" and in 1993 she won the award for the song "Ain't it Heavy."

Needless to say, it took a lot to keep from gushing over Etheridge during the interview, but I had to gush some. She's opened the closet door a little bit wider and inserted kick-ass rock and roll. Here's what was said:

ISSUE: I want to thank you for coming out. Both you and your life-partner Julie Cypher have reached into the lives of middle America and introduced yourselves as the lesbians next door. How did you get to this place of comfort?

Melissa: Well, I was one of the fortunate people. My family pretty much basically supported me and embraced my sexuality, and also my strange career choice. Being gay is one thing, but that was just as hard. They always supported me and always said, 'Well, as long as you're happy.' I sort of had set the base for coming out. I had to say 'Hey, I'm happy about myself.'

ISSUE: So your family was the scariest step in coming out?

Melissa: I think that's everybody's biggest thing. It's the one thing that's the closest to you, the one thing that gives you the most support.

ISSUE: Are you amazed by your current success?

Melissa: No, I'm not amazed. I have become progressively better and better and I think in the back of my mind, I hoped that maybe America would open up, that the gay community was selling America short -- they really are more accepting than we give them credit for.

ISSUE: Your life is a whirlwind of places and things and people who want something from you, how do you stay grounded?

Melissa: Well, its through my personal relationships. I grew up in a small town and still have those roots and those values. You know this kind of career is up and down and its great to be on the upside, but you can also fade and comeback.

ISSUE: What has been the price of fame?

Melissa: There is a certain privacy factor. I can't go walking out in my ugly shorts and t-shirt, and I have to think, OK. I've got to wash my hair cause people are going to see me and know who I am. (Laughs), I can't blend in anywhere, but those are small things.

ISSUE: Your music is so powerful and passionate. What motivates you when you write your music? Where does all that energy come from?

Melissa: Well they're all personal experiences. That's just my constant inspiration. You've got to dig deep and look in.

ISSUE: One of my favorite songs of yours is "Dance without Sleeping." What were you trying to overcome?

Melissa: There is a huge fear -- face it. I think it is about coming to the crossroads and in order to move on, you must look at this huge fear and face it, even if your terrified. It's about standing there and looking at the crossroads.

ISSUE: What was the fear of yours? Or was it a personal fear?

Melissa: Yeah, it was a personal fear. Actually it was a fear of commitment, a fear of losing people.

ISSUE: You have said in other interviews that you relate to Janis Joplin. Why Janis?

Melissa: I relate to her performances. Personally I think she was in a lot of pain. She came to those crossroads and she didn't face those fears. I relate to the pain, but I don't necessarily relate to the way she handled it.

She certainly took it and sang it. Sang it hard, sang it differently.

ISSUE: Do you feel like you're similar in that way? Your singing style?

Melissa: I want people to feel the music. I just don't want them to hear it in their heads and have them tapping their feet... I want it to go all the way through.

ISSUE: Janis died of drug overdose. How do you deal with the drug issue on the road?

Melissa: Well its not even a question on the road. The road is so difficult. Such hard work. So hard on the body. I don't even drink out there, and its not that I'm not a drinker, It's just that I can't wear my body down. I'm out there two hours plus, on stage, I just don't know how people drink and do drugs. (Laughs) I think they abuse the body.

ISSUE: What does it feel like to be on stage with thousands of people totally into you and your music?

Melissa: I can sit here and describe it but, you'd never know it unless you did it. It's an amazing thing. There's nothing like the energy.

ISSUE: You write and produce almost all your own music. You don't have any back up singers. What's that about?

Melissa: Every album I sit down and try to do background vocals. It never sounds real. I did a little bit on the third album.

I talk to k.d. lang all the time, she said, 'You should do background vocals.' But that's kind of her thing, she likes layering vocals.

ISSUE: Are you afraid for other people to touch the music?

Melissa: No. No. It's just, I think I expect them to be on the same emotional level. And they're not.

ISSUE: During the MTV video awards, they ran a commerical with you promoting safe-sex in which you referred to condoms and dental dams... It's so unusual to hear someone say dental dams...

Melissa: (Laughs) It's my job to be unusual.

ISSUE: Your music video for "I'm the Only One" features women dancing together and kissing. Were you afraid that it would be censored?

continued on page 29

I WANT PEOPLE TO FEEL THE MUSIC. I JUST DON'T WANT THEM TO HE IT

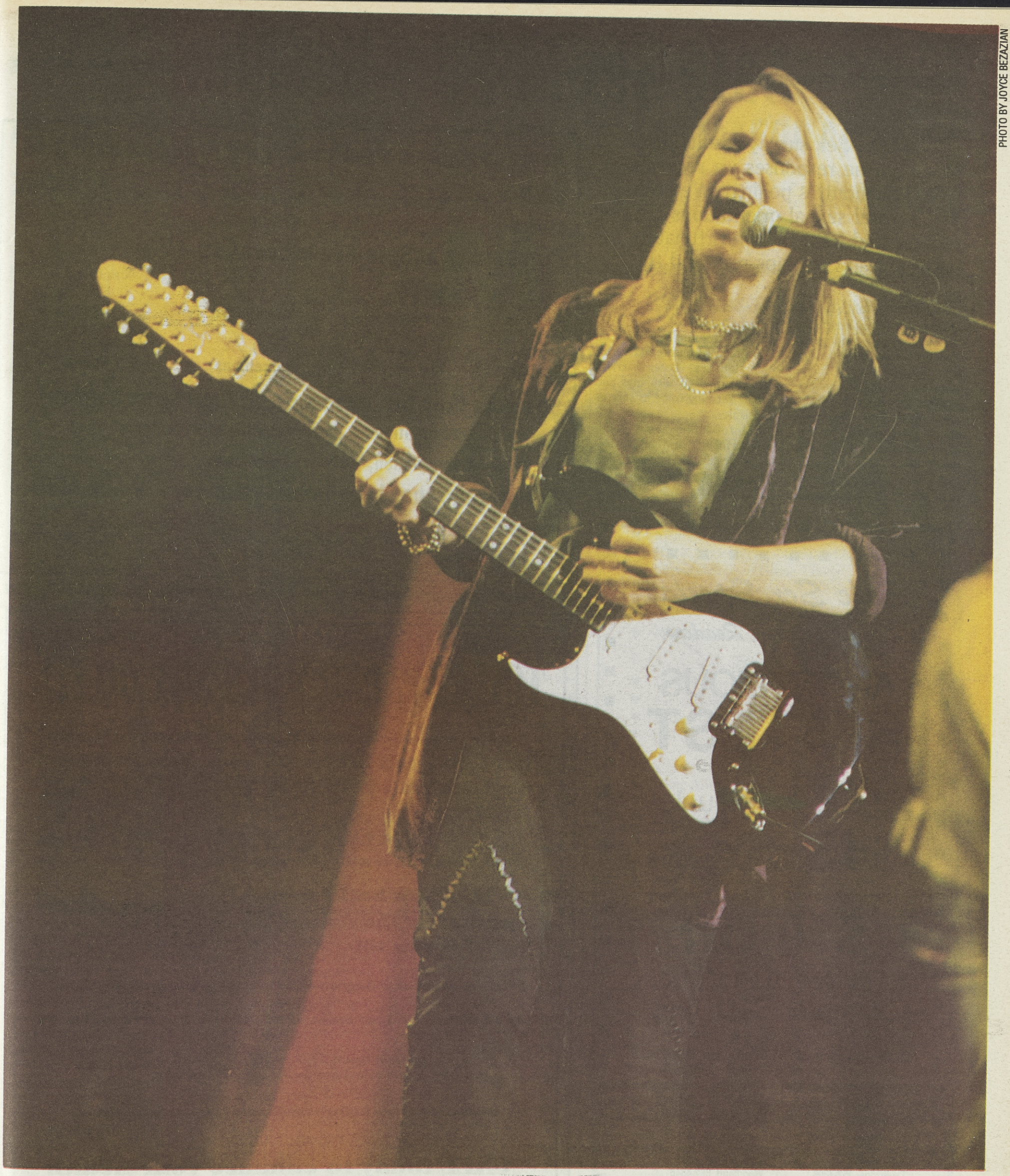

PHOTO BY JOYCE BEZAZIAN

O HE IT IN THEIR HEADS -- I WANT IT TO GO ALL THE WAY THROUGH.

Safe Sex Survey Results

The Safe-Sex survey results are based on the responses we received from last month's polling. We realize that several sexual orientations are not represented here but unfortunately only gays and lesbians returned the survey.

Some of the results are a bit unnerving. The number of men and women who continue to have unsafe sex remains high with lesbians placing themselves at risk in large numbers. The majority of gay men who say that they have unsafe sex also commented that they are in long term monogamous realtionships.

Not suprising, gay men have sex more often then lesbians. Some men claimed more than 30 encounters a month (including masterbation).

Noted by orange highlight on the graph are unsafe and alarming statistics. Latex barriers should be used with toys and while rimming to be as safe as possible.

Information about being tested for HIV or AIDS is available by calling the Lambda Community Center at (916) 442-0185 or Planned Parenthood. (see ad below.)

Average times a month engaging in sexual activities

Gay Men — 12 times

Lesbians — 5 times

Percentage of Safe-Sex encounters

Gay Men	80% Always	3% Sometimes	17% Never
Lesbians	2% Always	26% Sometimes	72% Never

Sex acts they felt were safe without latex barrier

Gay Men — Masturbation, oral sex, dildos/toys, rimming.

Lesbians — Masturbation, oral sex, dildos/toys.

Percentage that have been tested for HIV and AIDS

Gay Men — 91%

Lesbians — 3%

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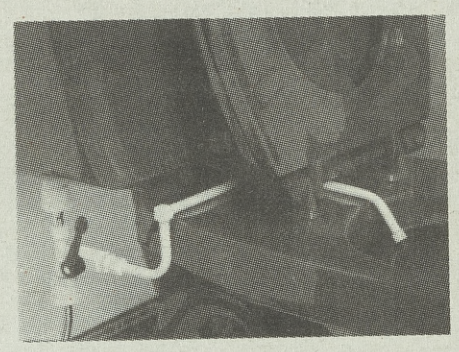

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The AIDS File

Availability Of New AIDS Drug Stalls in Wait for FDA Approval

by Bruce Mirken

Recombinant human growth hormone, viewed by many as the most important development ever in treatment for AIDS wasting, won't be getting to patients as soon as AIDS treatment activists had hoped.

A "Treatment IND" to make growth hormone available to those in urgent need pending the drug's final approval seems to have been delayed--possibly until this winter. The Food and Drug Administration won't comment officially, but word is that the FDA and the drug's manufacturer, Serono Laboratories, are at loggerheads over whether or not the company has submitted sufficient data.

ACT UP/Golden Gate, which has led the activist community's efforts around growth hormone, is furious; Two of the group's members have shown dramatic improvement while on the drug, and ACT UP believes both the FDA and Serono have bungled the situation badly. Look for all hell to break loose if there isn't progress soon.

ARGUMENT OVER EXPANDED ACCESS, ACCELERATED APPROVAL CONTINUES:

The stir caused when Treatment Action Group, a group of New York AIDS treatment activists, suggested that the Food and Drug Administration not invite Hoffmann-LaRoche to apply for expanded access and accelerated approval for its protease inhibitor, saquinavir, has continued through the summer and into the fall. TAG had suggested that these mechanisms, designed to give PWAs early access to drugs which might be helpful, weren't producing adequate data regarding the drugs' effectiveness.

Although many other treatment activists howled their disagreement, Barron's, the financial weekly published by Dow Jones, turned TAG's views into a cover story in its August 15 issue, headlined, "Do We Have Too Many Drugs for AIDS?" The Barron's piece gave no clue that most other AIDS activists disagreed.

In response, Project Inform circulated a consensus statement affirming the community's support for early access to potential treatments, restating what has long been a truism among AIDS activists: if you have a disease that is likely to kill you, a drug that isn't 100% proven is still better than nothing at all.

Representatives of Project Inform, ACT UP/New York, ACT UP/Golden Gate and others pressed the issue at a late August meeting with FDA officials, and activists from all over the country drove the point home again at a large FDA meeting Sept. 12 and 13. The overwhelming sentiment from the community was in support of expanded access and accelerated approval, and FDA officials made it clear they had gotten the message.

INTRIGUING REPORT ON ARTHRITIS DRUG:

The Journal of Rheumatology, not generally one of the places people look for news about the latest AIDS treatments, recently published an interesting report regarding sulfasalazine, a drug used in treating rheumatoid arthritis and other autoimmune disorders (diseases in which the immune system goes out of kilter, with damaging effects).

A group of doctors from New York's Cabrini Medical Center discussed four HIV-positive patients who had Reiter's syndrome, an inflammatory joint disease that sometimes occurs in people with HIV, and who were treated with sulfasalazine. All four patients, three of whom were not taking any anti-HIV medication, showed a pronounced increase in CD4 cell levels, from an average of 315 to an average of 542.

The doctors, not surprisingly, suggest the drug warrants further study in people with HIV. In the meantime, many questions suggest themselves: will the sulfasalazine have a similar effect in HIV-infected patients without Reiter's syndrome? Do the improved CD4 levels correspond to an actual improvement in the patients' condition, such as fewer infections or longer survival? Can the improved levels be sustained over time, or will they drop eventually, as usually happens with AZT and its cousins?

Also unclear is exactly why sulfasalazine seems to have this effect. The doctors note that although the drug's "mechanism of action is unclear," even in standard uses, "it appears to possess many immuno regulatory functions."

USEFUL INFORMATION AVAILABLE:

Treatment Issues, the newsletter published by Gay Men's Health Crisis in New York, has published a wealth of useful, practical information lately. The August, 1994 issue contained a summary of safe travel guidelines for people with HIV, including information on immunizations, food and drink, and less obvious things like insect-borne diseases that aren't a problem in the U.S., but which can pose a danger in some foreign countries.

The same issue also contains part two of a summary of AIDS drug interactions, begun in the previous issue. For someone taking a large number of medications at once, these can be very important. Project Inform summarized much of the same information in the form of a handy chart in the June, 1994 P.I. Perspectives. For information about Treatment Issues, write to GMHC Medical Information, 129 W. 20th St., New York, NY 10011. Project Inform can be reached by calling 1-800-822-7422.

If you have a disease that is likely to kill you, a drug that isn't 100% proven is still better than nothing at all.

THE LAMBDA CENTER

Serving the Lesbian, Gay & Bisexual Community

Mondays

- Men's Coming Out Group 5:30PM
- H.E.A.L. Health Education and Awareness for Lesbians Support Group 7:00PM
- HIV+ Support Group 1st & 3rd Monday, 7:00PM

Tuesdays

- CGNIE (last Tuesday of each month) 7:00PM

Wednesdays

- Men's Focus Group 11/2 7:00PM
- Eagles (for seniors) 10/26 & 11/9 6:30PM
- Men of Color Support Grp; 10/26 & 11/9 6:30PM
- H.E.A.L. Advisory Board (call for information)

Thursdays

- Being Alive Living Room for PWAs 2:00-5:00PM
- Women's Coming Out Group 6:00PM
- CODA (co-dependents anonymous) 7:30PM

Fridays

- Youth Rap Group (24 & under) 5:45PM
- Café Lambda 8:00PM

Saturdays

- Youth Social (24 & under) 8:00PM
- Traffic School 11/12 8AM- 4:30PM
- Homebuyer's Seminar 10/22 10:00AM

Sundays

- Sac Area Bisexual Network 10/16 & 11/6 6:30PM
- Eagles Bike Club, call Roy at 442-0185 for info
- Gay Fathers 11/13 6:30PM
- Twin Spirits 10/23 3:00PM

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Lambda Community Center – 20th & L Streets, Sacramento 442-0185

the latest events

Budweiser

SACRAMENTO

OCTOBER 14 - 16

The Sacramento Zoological Society and Design Alliance - Over 60 locally and nationally known designers, architects and florists present their creative "Fantasy Tablescapes" of unique table arrangements. Call (916) 264-5888 for times and ticket prices. This is a fundraiser for both groups.

OCTOBER 15

Fairy Godfathers - meeting at Lambda Center, 1931 L Street at 1:30 p.m.

Square Dance with Capital City Squares. Basic, mainstream and plus levels at William Land School, 12 and V Streets, 7:30 p.m. For more info call James at (916) 925-4242.

OCTOBER 16

Dykes on Mykes - celebrating the creative diversity of Sacramento's own talented musicians. 5 p.m. at the 24th Street Theater. Tickets $8 in advance, $10 at door. Call (916) 452-3005.

River City Metropolitan Community Church Open House. 11 a.m. service with Martha Stevens followed by community awards and bar-b-que. Call (916) 856-1444 for more info.

OCTOBER 17

Lesbian Support Group - in Auburn at 6:30 p.m. at The DeWitt Center, 11512 B Avenue in the pool room. (916) 632-7080. Also meets on Nov. 7 and 21st.

OCTOBER 18

Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays - will meet at 7:30 p.m. in the Fireside Room in the Educational Building, St. Marks United Methodist Church, 2391 St. Marks Way.

OCTOBER 19

Lesbian and Gay Business Alliance - will meet at 7 p.m. at Carrows Restaurant, J and 28th. There is no charge to guests at their first meeting. For more info call (916) 863-9733.

Names Project, Sacramento Chapter meeting. 7 p.m. For more info call James at (916) 925-4242.

OCTOBER 20 - 22

Being Gay Today - Featuring everything you always wanted to know about leather, Lt. Joe Enloe discusses four unsolved murders in Sacramento and the Fairy Godfathers. Programs show at 10 p.m. on Thursday, 4 p.m. on Friday, 10 a.m. on Saturday on Channel 17.

OCTOBER 20

AIDS Action International will have Rev. Randolph Frew speak at Trinity Cathedral, 2620 Capitol Avenue, beginning with Holy Eucharist at 5:45 p.m., followed by dinner (cost $4.00) in the Great Hall, and presentation at 7 p.m. in the Cathedral, concluding with a Healing Service.

The Blisters for Sisters Run, the annual family event will take place beginning at 8 a.m. and is open to both men and women. The race will feature a 5k, 10k, and a non-competitive walk that will start on front street in Old Sacramento. All race proceeds go toward programs of the Chemical Dependency Center for Women. For more info call (916) 448-2951.

OCTOBER 21

Comedy Night at Jammin Jo's, 2721 Broadway in Sacramento, featuring Amy Boyd and Monica Grant. Shann Carr is the MC for the evening. $3 cover.

OCTOBER 23

Champagne * Chocolate * Checkbooks - The Lambda Community Center is holding its second annual fundraiser at the Hartley House Bed and Breakfast Inn. Entertainment includes William Hedge on the piano and Laura Bowly on vocals along with special guest Tony Miller. Desserts by Rick's Dessert Diner and champagne are just a sample of what will be served. To partake in this fabulous event call (916) 442-0185. A $50.00 donation per person/couple is requested.

OCTOBER 27

AIDS in the "Real World" - Known for his appearance on MTV's show, Pedro Zamora comes to speak at CSUS from 11:45 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the Union South Lawn.

Being Gay Today - Channel 17 host Andross turns producer in his first Halloween Special of "OUTrageous". Also shows on Oct. 28 and 29. 10 p.m. Thurs., 4 p.m. Fri, 10 a.m. Sat.

OCTOBER 28

Closet Ball - "Queens from the Crypt" in the tent at Faces, 2000 K Street. Enter your contestant for Closet Ball Queen at the Mercantile Saloon October 27 between 6 - 9 p.m.

Halloween Party at Jammin Jo's, 2721 Broadway. Costume contest with cash prizes. Call 457-7888 for more info.

Haunted House at Lambda Community Center hosted by the Valley Knights Motorcycle Club. 8-10 p.m. $2 donation at the door. Oct. 28 through Oct. 31 Call (916) 442-0185 for more details.

OCTOBER 29

Robin S performs at Faces, 2000 K Street in a benefit for the year-long Rainbow Festival fundraising drive.

Tenth Anniversary Celebration of SACWN - The Grand Ballroom, 629 J Street, Sacramento. 6 p.m. Cocktails, 7 p.m. Dinner, 8 p.m. Tribute to our Founding Mothers, 9 p.m. to Midnight dance with "Second Wind." Advanced tickets are required. Call (916) 451-8034.

Big Art - is hosting Sacramento's second annual "Erotic Art Show and Costume Ball." This event will feature works by over 40 local artists. The artist reception will be 6-8 p.m. at 920 Del Paso Blvd. Free to the public. The Costume Ball will be from 9 p.m. until 2 a.m. Event is open to the public for a fee of $4 in advance $5 night of Ball. For more info call (916) 446-2740.

OCTOBER 30

Country Western two-step and "Tush Push" contests at Faces, 2000 K Street. 8 - 11 p.m. Call 448-7798 for more info.

OCTOBER 31

Halloween Night.

Haunted Mansion presented by the Deaf Gay and Lesbian Center, 8 p.m. - midnight. 4037 18th Street. $5 in costume, $10 without. ASL ghost-storytelling at 10 p.m.

Jammin Jo's Halloween Night party. Football and costumes. Cash prize for the best costume of the night. 2721 Broadway.

Russian River and North Bay

November 3

Being Gay Today - Features an interview and update with Lt. Andrew Holmes of the National Guard, a look at the Rainbow Festival, National Coming Out Day and poetry by Michael Gorman. Also shows on the 4th and 5th. 10 p.m. Thurs., 4 p.m. Fri., and 10 a.m. Sat.

November 4

The Lambda Players - present Baltimore Waltz by Paula Vogel. Performances are also on the 5, 11, 12, 18, 19, 25, and 26th. Call (916) 442-7752 for more info.

November 8

Get Out and VOTE!

November 9

Sacramento AIDS Foundation Benefit Shopping Day - Macy's Downtown Plaza. Begins at 10 a.m. - 9 p.m. Special events and entertainment will happen during this all day shopping extravaganza.

November 10

Being Gay Today - Momentum TV presents an important discussion on the Radical Rights using the African American Community as a political wedge on Lesbian and Gay issues. Also Momentum brings an update on NCOD and a panel discussion on the importance of coming out openly about your sexual orientation. Also shows on the 11th and 12th. 10 p.m. Thurs., 4 p.m. Fri., 10 a.m. Sat.

Town Meeting - The Sacramento AIDS Foundation invites you to a Public Forum at FACES video room, 20th and K Streets, Sacramento, from 7 to 9 p.m.

November 12

Garage Sale to benefit the Sacramento Men's Chorus, Capital City Squares and the Sacramento Women's Chorus. 22nd and J Streets near the Gifted Gardener. 8 a.m. - 1 p.m. Call Steve for more information (916) 444-5213.

November 16

Names Project, Sacramento Chapter meeting. 7 p.m. For more info call James at (916) 925-4242.

October 29

Halloween Party at Fifes Resort. Call (800) 7-FIFES-1 for more details.

Halloween Costume Contest at Russian River Resort. Call 1(800) 41-RESORT for details.

San Francisco & Bay Area

October 15

Leadership and Empowerment Workshop for deaf and hear-of-hearing lesbians, gay and bisexuals. Sponsored by the Deaf Gay and Lesbian Center. For more info call (415) 255-9944 or 255-0700 TTY. 1:15 - 5 p.m. at the MCC Community Building, 150 Eureka Street (between 18th and 19th Streets), $5 per person.

RINK FOTO

October 20

Castro Theatre - presents best of lesbian and gay film fest, featuring 1994 hit "World And Time Enough", at 9 p.m. Four other films will be shown beginning at 7 p.m. For more info call Frameline at (415) 703-8658.

October 21

San Francisco B.A.N.G.L.E. (The Bay Area Network of Gay and Lesbian Educators) - invites you to celebrate its 10th anniversary at a T.G.I.F. party from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. at Charpe's 131 Gough. No-host Bar/Complimentary Hors D'Oeuvres.

October 23

Race for the cure of Breast Cancer - San Francisco's 4th annual event at 8:30 a.m. Sharon Meadow, Golden Gate Park. 5k Men's and Women's Run and a 1 Mile Fun Walk. To enter call 1-800-698-8699.

October 25

Sheryl Crow - performs at the Warfield nightclub. Doors open at 7 p.m., show starts at 8 p.m. Tickets $20. Call (510) 762-BASS.

Lily Tomlin and Jane Wagner - celebrate the publication My Life So Far by Edith Ann, 8 p.m., Masonic Auditorium, Nob Hill. Tickets $16 benefitting the Women's Foundation. (415) 392-4400.

October 28

Sandra Bernhard and The Strap-Ons - performs at the Warfield nightclub. Doors open at 6:30 p.m., show begins at 8 p.m. Tickets $25. Call (415) 775-7722.

October 29

Lesbian Mixed Doubles Tennis Tournament - Featuring Butch-Femme Tennis, Health and Fitness Fair, Lesbian Pros, Comedy, Costume Parades, Auction of Martina's and Rosie's Memorabilia at Mills College, Oakland. Judge: JoAnn Loulan. For registration and more info call (415) 346-2336.

October 31

Halloween in the Castro - presented by the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence, starts 8 p.m., stage at top of Castro and Market disco area-djs and disco setup. Donations given to charity.

November 1

Top Lesbian Authors - featured at book party/reading from 5 to 7 p.m. at the Golden Gate University Bookstore, 30 Jessie Street, San Francisco. The event is free. For more info call (415) 442-7277.

November 6

KAIROS - at the Seventh Annual "Together We Care" Celebration of KAIROS Support for Caregivers. The celebration will be held from 4 to 8 p.m. at the Carnelian Room on the top floor of 555 California Street in San Francisco.

November 11

Scott O'Hara - Portraits, Nudes, and Hard Dick Imagery, a group exhibition of photographs, drawings, and paintings, will premiere in photographer Mark I. Chester's studio in San Francisco from November 11th to December 11th. 7 p.m. to 11 p.m. at 1229 Folsom St. San Francisco. For more info call (415) 621-6294.

November 17

Gay American Smoke Out! - Greg's Ballroom will go smoke free for Leather Night at 551 W. Julian St., San Jose. Donate your cigarette money to your local HIV/AIDS and Breast Cancer organization and get quit kits, information and support. For more info call (510) 891-0689.

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Movies

Shocks and Chuckles in Two New Gangster Movies

by Chris Narloch

"Pulp Fiction", writer/director Quentin Tarantino's wild new film which won top prize at the recent Cannes Film Festival, is a wacked-out mess -- but I liked it anyway.

This strange brew of action and comedy features lightning-rod performances by newer actors, like Uma Thurman and Samuel L. Jackson and provides comeback roles for John Travolta and Bruce Willis.

Travolta and Jackson play partners in crime, hitmen who couldn't be more mismatched. Sporting greasy extensions, Travolta gets the kind of none-too-bright character he plays to perfection. Jackson, meanwhile, almost jumps off the screen with a ferocious portrayal of a brutal, Bible-quoting killer. They make a great pair, discussing the merits of foot massage and cunnilingus before hits. Travolta meets his match, and gets into deep shit when he's forced to entertain his boss' bored wife. As played by Uma Thurman, with a short, black wig and mauve lipstick, this woman is even sexier than the actress' last role, as Sissy Hankshaw in "Even Cowgirls Get The Blues". When she and Travolta dive into the twist on their date in the middle of a trendy L.A. restaurant they're hotter than hell together.

Unfortunately, director Tarantino doesn't stay on this dreamy plateau but concentrates instead on the gorier elements in his material. When Bruce Willis shows up, it's great to see him looking buff and butch and playing an interesting character for a change -- a scheming prize-fighter on the run. But then the script gets him into hot water, with an unbelievably sadistic and homophobic scene involving sadomasochistic sex.

The movie is like that all the way through, operating in fits and starts, with wonderful bits like Christopher Walken's too-creepy cameo and Rosanna Arquette's pierced-from-head-to-toe druggie (even, she tells us, her clit is pierced) followed by dumb parts like Tarantino's own low-life, bathrobe-clad walk-on.

At two-and-a-half hours the movie, like Travolta's hair, could have used a good trim. At one point, the former "Saturday Night Fever" stud removes his shirt, and I couldn't believe my eyes. Plump and white as a sheet, he resembles for a moment the Pillsbury dough boy. The movie's like that, too -- with a little fat off, it could have been incredible.

Travolta and Thurman kick up their heels in "Pulp Fiction."

BULLETS OVER BROADWAY

Woody Allen's latest flick also deals with gangsters, but in a decidedly lighter vein. "Bullets Over Broadway", although no "Annie Hall", is Allen's best movie in years, an amusing backstage comedy set during the Roaring 20's.

The cast is almost as good as that of "Pulp Fiction" and includes John Cusack, Harvey Fierstein, Mary-Louise Parker, Tracey Ullman and Dianne Wiest. Cusack has the central role as an earnest young playwright who sells out to the mob in order to get his "art" financed. Before long he has the mobster's girlfriend acting (pitifully) in his play, and her thug/bodyguard is rewriting his lines.

The story is pretty lightweight, so it's up to the cast to provide the pleasure, and they don't disappoint. As the ambitious but untalented writer, John Cusack gets to do the kind of hilarious high-strung acting he's patented. And Jennifer Tilly and Dianne Wiest score big laughs as, respectively, the bimbo turned "actress", and the grand dame of the theater (and don't you forget it.)

The movie-making is impeccable as is usually the case with Woody Allen (the period costumes and production design are especially sumptuous.) So it's the script that doesn't quite cut it. There are clever lines -- Cusack, exasperated, says, "I'm going to check myself into a sanitarium and get the help that I need" -- but, overall, the humor lacks the bite of vintage Allen. If you want a pleasant diversion go see "Bullets Over Broadway". If you want to be shocked and dismayed check out "Pulp Fiction".

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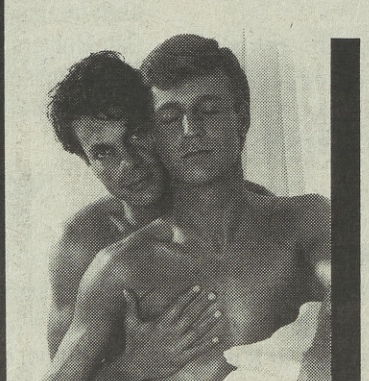

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Harvest Time Brings A Bumper Crop of Lyrical Angst

by Bill Peterson

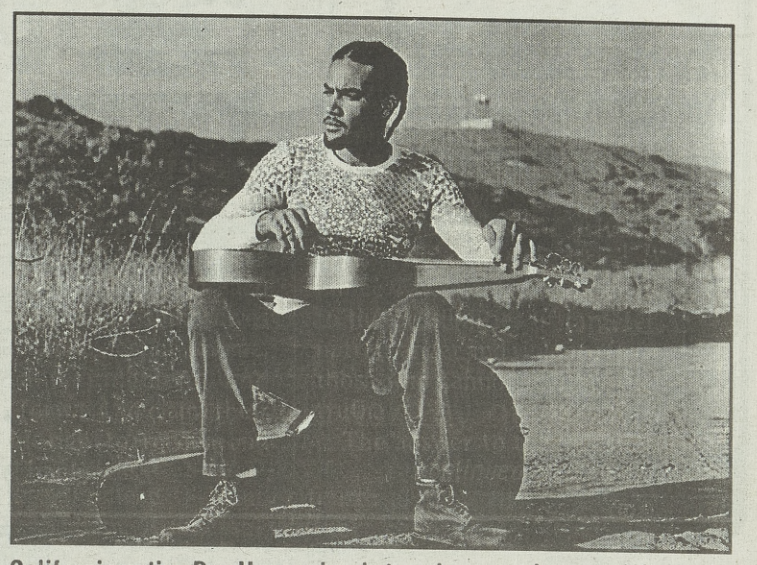
Lurking in the pumpkin patch are some characters just as deep and insightful as the Great Pumpkin- Ireland's Sinead O'Connor licks her wounds, Sacramento's Mark Curry thrashes around and South-state natives Ben Harper and Jeff Buckley stir up a wide variety of emotions on their CD's.

Sinead O'Connor's fourth album, **"Universal Mother"** cements the fear that O'Connor hit her peak back on album #2, the arresting "I Do Not Want What I Have Not Got." It's not that Sinead's passion has withered, as the opening "Fire on Babylon" proves, but it seems that the once defiant, fierce O'Connor is suddenly... meek. Following her trial by fire (the Pope photo-incident, and Sinatra controversy), O'Connor now sings "I'm a red Christmas-tree ball/ And I'm fragile", and the self-explanatorily titled "John I Love You" and "My Darling Child." On her cover of Nirvana's "All Apologies," Sinead plays the martyr: "I wish I was like you/ Easily amused/ Find my nest of salt/ Everything's my fault/ I'll take all the blame." No matter how exasperating Sinead's exploits were, "Universal Mother" makes one hope that O'Connor will heal the wounds of her stardom and emerge strong enough to face the exposure that fame brings with it.

Sinead O'Connor .

Mark Curry: Let the Wretched Come Home South Sac's native son returns with a rough edge on his sophomore disc. Mining the territory of junkies and tough home life, Curry's roots rock approach ignites regularly into bursts of anger and disbelief as on "When I Go": "Grandaddy what did you think when you pulled on the trigger/ Did it make it okay?/ Am I gonna feel that way?" Curry's scrappy attitude and sturdy songwriting are aided by his sincerity which inhabits every moment of the disc, from the ballsy rave-ups, to the folksy quiet time on "11 Minutes."

Ben Harper: Welcome to the Cruel World Stating that "The preservation of acoustic music—not rock 'n' roll on acoustic instruments, but acoustic music—is vital to me", 23-year-old Ben Harper seems perfectly suited to the days of MTV Unplugged. But his impressive debut expands beyond stripped down pop into a hybrid of Woody Guthrie's dust bowl folk and Paul Simon's African influenced work, spiced by his expressive voice, which recalls an earthier Terence Trent D'Arby. But, lest you think Harper is just a poser wishing he'd been born fifty years earlier, his lyrics are centered in the present " I hear helicopters/ Over my house every day/ Shining their lights and flying low/ Treat a child like a criminal / From the day that he is born".



California native Ben Harper hard at work preserving acoustic music.

On the chipper Zydeco "Mama's Got a Girlfriend Now", Harper is happy for the newly liberated mama-"You see mama don't watch your damn football/ And your beer drinkin' just won't do/ You're just stayin' out late/ And you're preachin' the hate/ And you never have been true." " Cruel World" is the kind of album that comes along all too rarely.

Jeff Buckley: Grace Jeff, the son of the revered (and deceased) musician Tim Buckley emerges with a debut that immediately brings to mind Led Zeppelin, due to Buckley's eerily Robert Plant-like vocals. The basic four-piece band structure supports Buckley's fiery and passionate voice as he meanders around ten tunes that vary from the opening gust of " Mojo Pin" through the sweet " Lilac Wine" .

50 words or less:

Pet Shop Boys: Disco 2 Remixing the hits from last year's **Very** CD as well as the "Absolutely Fabulous" single, the Boys' latest shows just how important their lyrics are. You can dance through this CD, but the brains and wit are all but eliminated. Hurry, though, and you can get a fun bonus CD.

Various Artists:The Glory of Gershwin As a dual celebration of the Gershwins' and octogenarian harmonica master Larry Adler, the stars have gathered to have fun-Sting, Oleta Adams, Elton John, Lisa Stansfield and Elvis Costello vamp it up and make for a great collection to introduce these timeless tunes to a new generation.

Barbra Streisand: The Concert Whether or not you saw Babs live, this two-disc recording of one of the recent concerts serves as a satisfying souvenir at a bargain price-only a fraction of the shows' ticket prices- and you get Streisand in great voice on show tunes and old favorites like "The Way We Were".

Various Artists: If I Were A Carpenter Just one more tribute album, I promise! If you have any doubts about Prozac being the drug of choice these days, check out the performances here including the standout, Sonic Youth's "Superstar". These modern rock interpretations will make you look at Karen and Richard in a new light.

Anita Baker: Rhythm of Love Four years since Anita's last, not much has changed: at times slipping dangerously close to jazzy-muzak, Baker's succulent voice and classy tunes pull it through. And doesn't Anita look gorgeous in that white vinyl raincoat in the video?!

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Restaurant Review

Tasty Heights at Tapa The World

by David A. Borad

Midtown Sacramento provides a number of cafes where one can sit, sip coffee, have a snack, and philosophize with friends or read... it's a great way to while away a few hours. But, what do you do if you want more than a brief snack and a latte? Go to Tapa the World!

There you can nibble on a seemingly endless variety of tapa dishes and, if you are hungry for more, enjoy a variety of savory paellas, soups, and salads.

Originally just a piece of bread used to cover a drink, tapas have evolved into an art. Slices of bread are served with slices of meat, cheese, various relishes, and hot toppings. Tapa the World has all that as well as several dinner selections and a large list of imported wine, beer, and sherry.

Relaxation is the word of the day at Tapa the World. Housed in a small converted office on J Street, the restaurant is surrounded by glass windows. Outside, chairs line the sidewalk, allowing ample opportunity to enjoy the Sacramento sunshine and watch the crowds go by. Inside, the restaurant feels like a patio of a Spanish villa. Floors of brown quarry tile, white stucco walls, and large, sturdy refectory tables dominate the interior. There are a handful of tables for two and four, but clearly this is a place to go with a large group and enjoy spending time sipping sherry, eating, and enjoying life.

But what of the food? The food is wonderful. We ordered the Champinones al Ajillo ($3.50) and Gambas al Ajillo ($6.50). The waiter returned with plates filled with mushrooms and shrimp sauteed in olive oil, white wine, parsley and a healthy dollop of garlic. The mushrooms were strong and earthy, holding up nicely to the easily overpowering flavors of garlic and wine. The shrimp had an extra kick to them from the bits of dried red chili that were added to the sauce. The bread deserves a special mention, small squares of a dense, slightly oily bread flavored with anise seed, the perfect choice for these powerful dishes - it was dense enough to hold the moist toppings and still sop up some of the delicious sauces. Shared, the two dishes were nearly enough for dinner and certainly would have made a perfect light lunch.

We followed with the Paella Mixta ($10 per person), served with a 2 person minimum and requiring a 30-minute wait. The combination of saffron rice, chicken, seafood, chorizo, and vegetables was well worth the wait. The oven hot dish our waiter brought was beautifully presented. Fresh clams and mussels nestled in brilliant yellow rice filled with chicken, sausage, and tiny artichoke halves. The flavors of the dish mingled gently, and the generous serving was far more than the two of us could finish.

We got there early on a Thursday evening and watched the restaurant fill to near capacity quite quickly. The staff was efficient, friendly and attentive. They serve until midnight every night, and offer live Spanish classical guitar from 9:00 to 11:00 Sunday through Thursday. This is a perfect choice for an early dinner or late after-theater snack. Better yet, go with a group of hungry friends for a lively late afternoon snack. Whenever you go, enjoy!

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Dykes To Watch Out For

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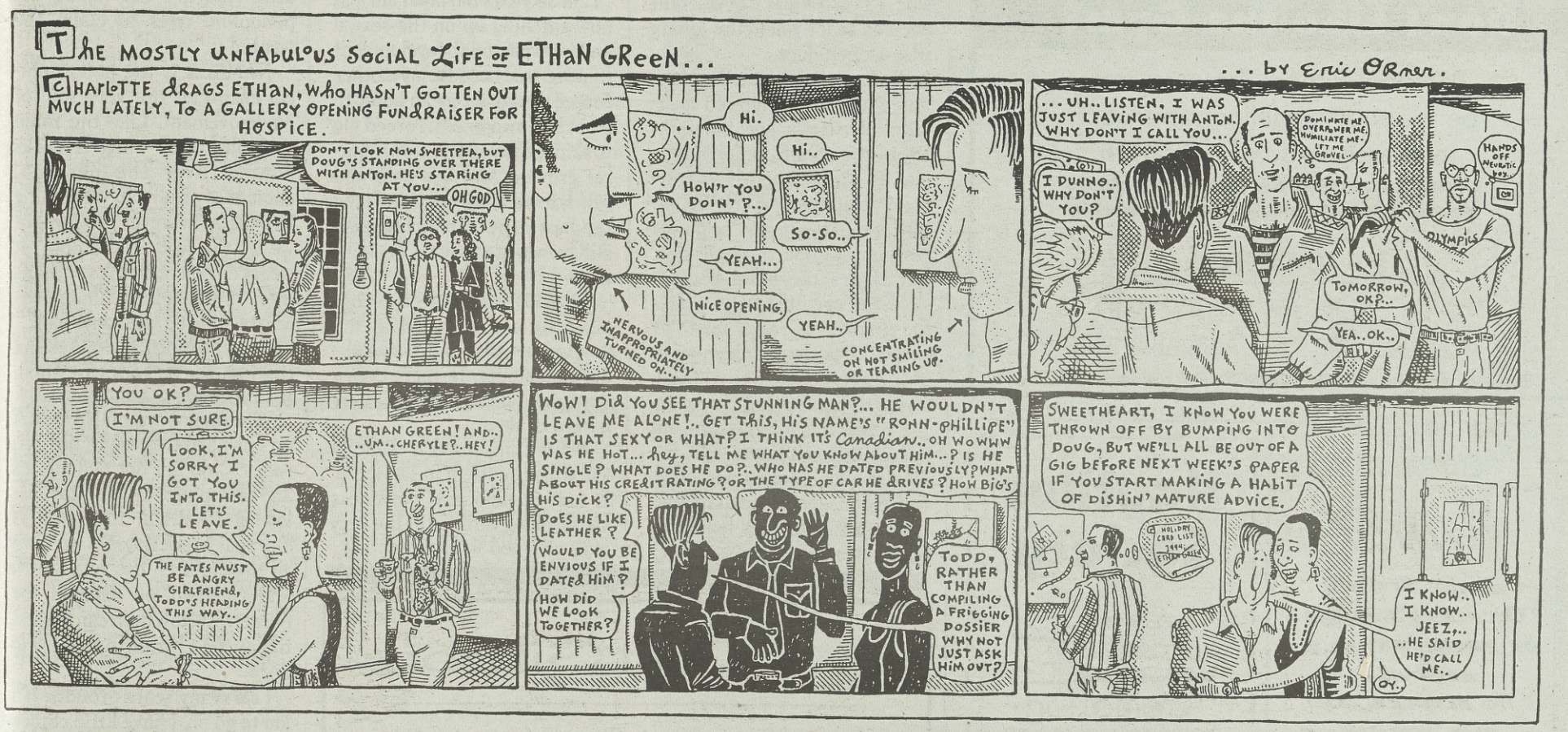
198
ALL READY FOR YOUR BIG NIGHT, MO? D'YOU NEED ANY POINTERS? WANT ME TO COME OVER AND TAKE A PICTURE OF YOU TWO BEFORE YOU GO OUT?
OH, MY GOD! YOU HAVE A DATE?
NO, I DO NOT HAVE A DATE. UH... AND IF I DID, I WOULD RESENT THAT TONE OF VOICE.
ALL FREEDOM RINGS 80% OFF!
SHE'S GOING TO THE MOVIES WITH DEIRDRE, ONE OF THE WRITERS WHO READ HERE LAST MONTH.
REALLY! I LIKED HER. SHE WAS SMART. AND NOT UNATTRACTIVE, AS I RECALL.
SO MO, ARE YOU GONNA PUT OUT?
LOIS! THIS ISN'T A DATE! SHE JUST WANTS TO MEET MORE PEOPLE. AND IF IT WAS A DATE, I WOULD CERTAINLY NOT HAVE SEX WITH HER THE FIRST TIME WE WENT OUT!
CHLOE PLUS MILDRED
THE BOOK OF SHORT LESBIAN PENGUIN STORIES
WHOA! HAVE YOU SIGNED THE YOUTH FOR CHRIST "TRUE LOVE WAITS" CHASTITY PLEDGE?
NO, IT'S JUST... I'VE DONE THE U-HAUL SCENE, Y'KNOW? I'M TIRED OF GOING TO BED WITH A DATE AND WAKING UP WITH A DOMESTIC PARTNER. FROM NOW ON I'M GONNA WAIT UNTIL I KNOW THIS IS WHO I WANT TO BE WITH BEFORE I SLEEP WITH HER.
WHAT KIND OF TWISTED LOGIC IS THAT? HOW D'YOU KNOW YOU WANNA BE WITH HER UNLESS YOU DO HER?
LOOK, I'M NOT LIKE YOU. IF I HAVE SEX, I FALL IN LOVE. IT'S A GENETIC DEFECT.
MO, WHY ARE YOU SO SURE TONIGHT ISN'T A DATE?
OH, IT'S A DATE! THIS BABE DEIRDRE WAS CREAMING HER JEANS WHEN MO SAID SHE'D GO OUT WITH HER.
LOIS!
GO ON. GIVE HER A TUMBLE. SHE WANTS YOU.
LOOK. EVEN IF I WAS INTERESTED, I'D WANNA GO REALLY SLOW. I THINK IT WOULD BE EXCITING.
I WISH MAXINE AND I HAD DONE THAT. ONCE YOU GO ALL THE WAY, YOU CAN NEVER GET BACK THAT SUBLIME, TORTURED TENSION OF JUST HOLDING HANDS, OR THE FIRST TIME YOU UNBUTTON HER SHIRT.
YEAH. MY NEW GUIDELINE IS, YOU SHOULDN'T BE NAKED WITH SOMEONE TILL YOU KNOW WHAT HER RELATIONSHIP WITH HER MOTHER IS LIKE.
GOOD POINT. IF I'D DONE THAT, I NEVER WOULD'VE TAKEN MY COAT OFF WITH MAXINE.
OKAY. I'M OUTTA HERE. I HAVE TO GO TO THE GYM BEFORE MY, UH... APPOINTMENT.
GO GIRL! WORK IT!
PUMP IT UP!
SHORTLY THEREAFTER...
MO! I DIDN'T KNOW YOU WORKED OUT HERE? THIS IS MY MOM, BETTY. MOM, THIS IS WHO I'M GOING OUT WITH TONIGHT!
YMCA MORNER-DRIGHTER SWIM MEET THIS SATURDAY!
NICE TO MEET YOU, MO. DEIRDRE'S SO LOOKING FORWARD TO YOUR DATE!


THE MOSTLY UNFABULOUS SOCIAL LIFE OF ETHAN GREEN...
... by Eric Orner.
CHARLOTTE DRAGS ETHAN, WHO HASN'T GOTTEN OUT MUCH LATELY, TO A GALLERY OPENING FUNDRAISER FOR HOSPICE.
DON'T LOOK NOW SWEETPEA, BUT DOUG'S STANDING OVER THERE WITH ANTON. HE'S STARING AT YOU...
OH GOD
Hi.
Hi..
HOW'R YOU DOIN'?...
So-So..
YEAH...
NICE OPENING.
YEAH..
NERVOUS AND INAPPROPRIATELY TURNED ON...
CONCENTRATING ON NOT SMILING OR TEARING UP.
...UH.. LISTEN, I WAS JUST LEAVING WITH ANTON. WHY DON'T I CALL YOU...
I DUNNO.. WHY DON'T YOU?
DOMINATE ME OVER/HER ME HUMILIATE ME-LET ME GROVEL
HANDS OFF NEUROTIC BOY.
OLYMPICS
TOMORROW, OK?..
YEA..OK..
YOU OK?
I'M NOT SURE.
LOOK, I'M SORRY I GOT YOU INTO THIS. LET'S LEAVE.
ETHAN GREEN! AND.. ..UM.. CHERYLE?.. HEY!
THE FATES MUST BE ANGRY GIRLFRIEND, TODD'S HEADING THIS WAY..
WOW! DID YOU SEE THAT STUNNING MAN?... HE WOULDN'T LEAVE ME ALONE!.. GET THIS, HIS NAME'S "RONN-PHILLIPE" IS THAT SEXY OR WHAT? I THINK IT'S Canadian.. OH WOWW WAS HE HOT... hey, TELL ME WHAT YOU KNOW ABOUT HIM...? IS HE SINGLE? WHAT DOES HE DO?.. WHO HAS HE DATED PREVIOUSLY? WHAT ABOUT HIS CREDIT RATING? OR THE TYPE OF CAR HE DRIVES? HOW BIG'S HIS DICK?
DOES HE LIKE LEATHER?
WOULD YOU BE ENVIOUS IF I DATED HIM?
HOW DID WE LOOK TOGETHER?
TODD, RATHER THAN COMPILING A FRIGGING DOSSIER WHY NOT JUST ASK HIM OUT?
SWEETHEART, I KNOW YOU WERE THROWN OFF BY BUMPING INTO DOUG, BUT WE'LL ALL BE OUT OF A GIG BEFORE NEXT WEEK'S PAPER IF YOU START MAKING A HABIT OF DISHIN' MATURE ADVICE.
HOLIDAY CARD LIST 1994 ETHAN GALLERY
I KNOW.. I KNOW.. JEEZ,.. ..HE SAID HE'D CALL ME..
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GORMAN

continued from page 3

As for our commitment to safe and consensual sex, gay sex can, of course, be unsafe and non-consensual, but it is not so by definition. Sex between gay adults, like straight sex, is most often a positive and giving experience. Its participants come away having added something to themselves and their lives.

As for the freedom of a person to grow on an individual path, unmolested by those who would dictate a narrow conformity, this is the very heart of our movement, the goal of our work.

Given these facts of our struggle, we have a moral obligation to protest our unjustified exclusion from the rights and privileges afforded others in a democratic society. We are a positive force in our society, and we must demand full equality in all things social and political. To do otherwise would be a refutation of our own beliefs.

Does this then make us hypocrites if we exclude NAMBLA from our own society?

Absolutely and unequivocally NO.

Think back to the way you viewed adults when you were a child. Even the ones you did not like still inspired fear or grudging respect or a kind of awe. The ones you loved were a higher race of creature: strong, wise, able to work wonders and explain mysteries. There was a power in adulthood from which you were excluded. Sometimes you admired it. Sometimes you envied it. Always you were outside of it, unless some adult decided to let you in the otherwise locked door.

However bright their potential, children are limited mentally, physically and emotionally by their short tenure on the planet. Consequently, adult-child relationships are, by nature, out of balance. The power rests on one side, the adult side. Adults are therefore responsible for creating safe spaces for children to reach for their possibilities. As children grow in experience, knowledge, strength and social standing, the power begins to shift, but before this coming of age, the kind of equal footing necessary for a consensual sexual relationship simply does not exist. An adult may give over power to a child and pretend it is coming from the child, but that is illusion. An adult may pretend that the quenching of his needs is an act of love for the child, but that too is illusion.

An adult who has sexual relations with a child acts as if that child has the capacity to function as an adult. He or she, in fact, forces that child to do so. But for the child it is forced role-play, and the energy it takes to sustain that role drains the child of the resources that should be driving his growth, the growth that adult-child sex assumes has already taken place.

I am 38 years old and I am just now catching up on the sexual and interpersonal development that I missed because my mother forced me to act as an adult to meet her own needs, forced me to skip those years of slow, natural growth. And the pain and self hatred and fear that filled the gaps in the intervening years still brings me to tears I cannot stem.

Should NAMBLA be recognized by and included in the gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender community? No more than a hunter should be embraced by a herd of deer.

Adult-child sex is a crime in the truest sense. It has a victim. It has an innocent, powerless victim being violated by the very ones charged with protecting her. It is neither safe, nor sane, nor consensual, and cannot be. It damages one party and perpetuates the sickness of the other. Its imbalance of power precludes consent. It not only does not respect an individual's right to grow unmolested, it robs that individual of developmental choices by forcing him into the narrowest of conformities, conformity to the needs of a single adult molester.

NAMBLA is not about sex any more than rape is about sex. NAMBLA is about the desire of one individual to take power over another, more vulnerable individual without consent. And like the rapist, the pedophile tries to claim "he wanted it."

NAMBLA is the philosophical enemy of the very soul of our movement. Like the rabid religious right wing, it seeks control over the personal choices of others. In welcoming NAMBLA, however grudgingly, we let the wolf in the door. It wears different clothes perhaps than the religious fundamentalists, but it's the same wolf.

Worse, NAMBLA violates the children, the very ones for whom we are building a better future.

The members of NAMBLA do not need a space in our parades. Gays are not pedophiles and pedophiles are not gay. Allowing NAMBLA to march is the real hypocrisy. Do we deny to the children the very safety and freedom we demand for ourselves? How then can we justify giving a forum to those who do?

I carry my scars proudly. If I am to go on, I have little choice but to make my history my own. But I'll be damned if I will ever stand idly by and let someone's misguided concept of political inclusiveness inflict similar scars on some other father's son or daughter.

I am not without sympathy for the plight of the pedophile. Pedophilia is a sadly destructive illness which robs its victims of true relationship. The members of NAMBLA need referrals to counselors who can help them come to terms with their need to control and help them learn to live in a world where robbing others of their freedom is not an acceptable substitute for rational sexual interaction.

Barring their willingness to seek help and thus concede freedom to the children, they need jail cells.

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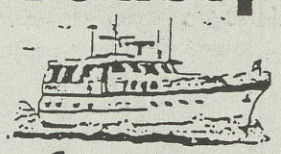
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MELISSA

continued from page 18

Melissa: Sure, there was certain paranoia that went with it. I knew after coming out that it would be silly for me to do boys and girls. It was a straight director, it definitely has his vision in it. He got the straight element in it but I had a picture and it encompassed everything.

ISSUE: At this year's MTV Video Awards you were a presenter, but they didn't have any female performers except Salt n' Pepa and no rock and roll women performed. What do you think about MTV? Are they sexist?

Melissa: I just think they are not very smart, I kind of run up against this in rock and roll music today, dont know if there's someone going, 'No no it should be guys,' I think they just keep overlooking us, and we just have to do it and do it again until we prove ourselves as much of a draw.

ISSUE: How did it feel to be VH1's video artist of the month?

Melissa: I'm just crazy about VH1, They've done a lot for me. You couldn't turn on VH1 last month without seeing something about me. (Laughs).

ISSUE: You've done four albums. How do you feel your music changed?

Melissa: Its been a journey. It's been full of growth. I've matured. The more I get up in front of people, the more I play, that experience is reflected.

ISSUE: How do you deal with all your groupies?

Melissa: Oh, they're pretty sweet, as long as they don't get too out a hand. As long as they respect me personally.

ISSUE: On whom did you have your first crush?

Melissa: That would be my kindergarten teacher.

ISSUE: What about her?

Melissa: She was just tall and womanly and I always liked her. I don't know ... she was a real role model.

ISSUE: Did you ever do the boyfriend thing?

Melissa: Oh yeah, until I was 15.

ISSUE: And at 15?

Melissa: I realized I liked my best friend better than my boyfriend.

ISSUE: Did you come out at 15?

Melissa: No. I came out at 17. I really didn't come out until I left my home town. I was a senior in high school and people started talking about me. I just feel for gay teens. It's so difficult.

ISSUE: At the March on Washington in 1993 you performed "Precious." Why that song?

Melissa: I felt that I wanted to achieve somenthing. "Precious." It's a love song to Julie. Period. It's about overcoming odds, overcoming feelings ... It's about our rights on some level and saying that if we hold on, we can work through it. If we make every moment important and not let a single moment go by and keep it all precious...
because every moment is precious.

ISSUE: What makes you the most happy?

Melissa: A job well done. Julie.

ISSUE: The most angry?

Melissa: Probably ignorance, intolerance, hatred.

ISSUE: If you were to describe yourself in emotional terms - what would they be?

Melissa: Intense and hopeful.

ISSUE: What can we expect from you in the future?

Melissa: Everything.

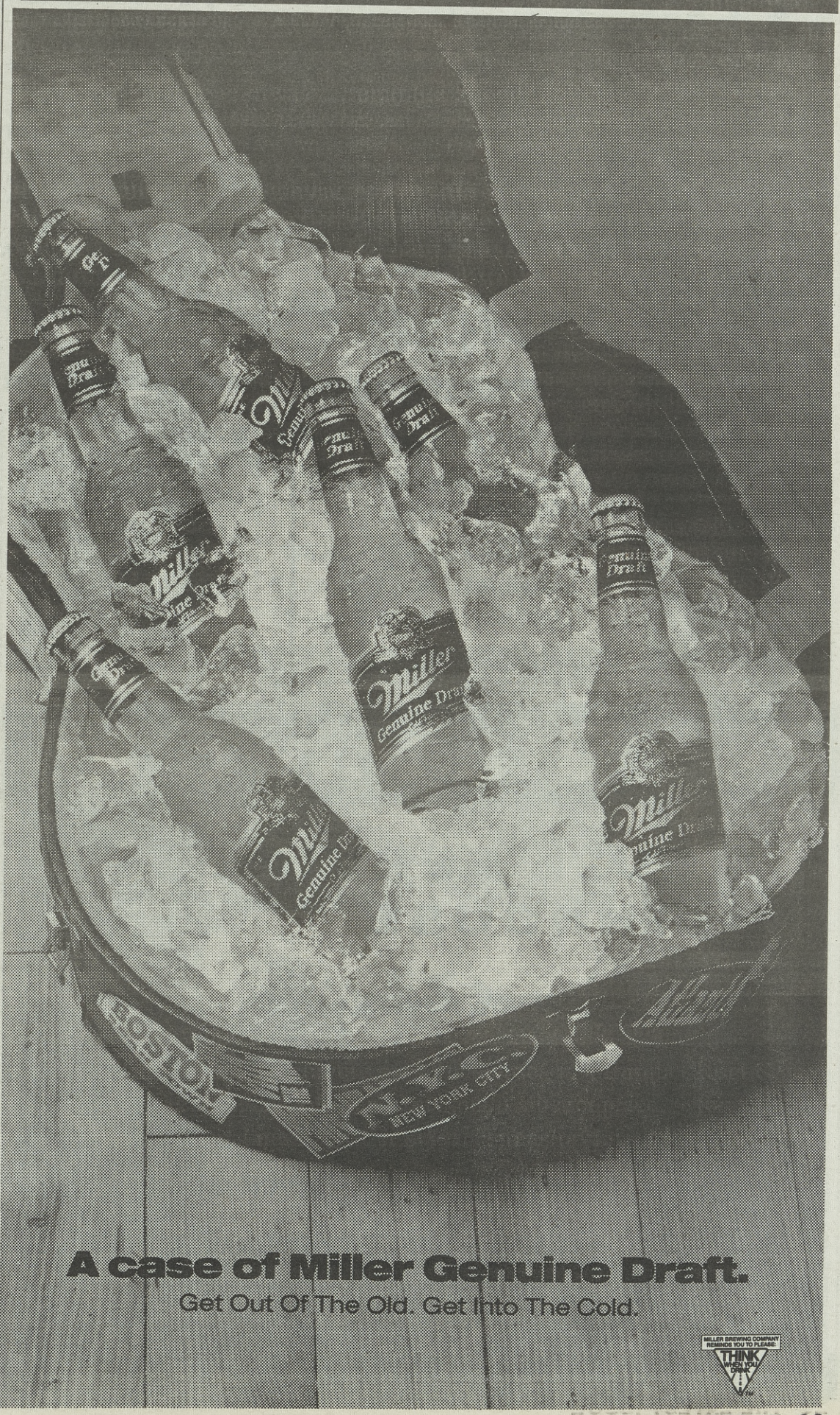
COMING OUT

continued from page 12

came from several speakers whose stories inspired and motivated the crowd. In sharing her own story, Kass McMahon stated that "no one should have to ask the question 'is there anyone out there like me?'" There was a sense of social responsibility to stand together with one voice to declare with pride, "Yes I Am" as Joanna Cassese of the Lambda Community Center led the crowd in a unifying cheer.

As Angie Curiali, Ph.D., from Sacramento City College stood before us, her message challenged us all to recognize and know that we are all connected. "Where you go, we all go," she said. "We are not queer, we are normal." That statement alone is the underlying truth to Coming Out Day. It is important for each of us to come out because as Curiali informed the crowd, "studies show that if you know two people of a stereotypical group, bias and prejudice cannot exist."

The crowd was also challenged by Brenda and Wanda Henson of Camp Sister Spirit, to use our voices through the power of the vote to claim the right for personal freedom.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by **Stephanie Carlisle**

So much information, so little space...

It's October already and you all know what that means--only four weeks to our gay national holiday, Halloween. Stephanie has to hit the mall (actually, **Cheap Thrills**) to find the perfect outfit that will transform her into the First Lady of ALL Sacramento. But enough about me...

*Congrats to **Bobbette, Ernie, Paul, Randy, La Kish, Loretta,** (Oh God, when does it stop?!) at the **Mercantile Saloon.** They just threw themselves a weekend bash for their 17th anniversary...

*MORE BAR NEWS: On the 17th, the **Town House** will be hosting an NFL Party, complete with dinner buffet, starting at 5:30...Sunday BBQ's continue at **Faces.** By the way, Happy Birthday to **Terry Sidie** (Oct. 9). Don't miss their Halloween Party on the 30th. The **Western** will celebrate its 10th Anniversary on the 27th--a decade of the BREAKFAST CLUB!...On the 21st of October, **Jammin' Jo's** will host a comedy nite. Be there, do that.

*Some of the most dynamic, loving people were born in October including queer graphic artist of the world, **Andy Markley** and the ever wonderful **Vicki Pfingst.**

* Speaking of dynamic people, **Jayne Rountree** was out and about looking healthy and strong at the **National Coming Out Day Rally,** Oct. 11 at the State Capitol. She has been fighting breast cancer and appears to be winning.

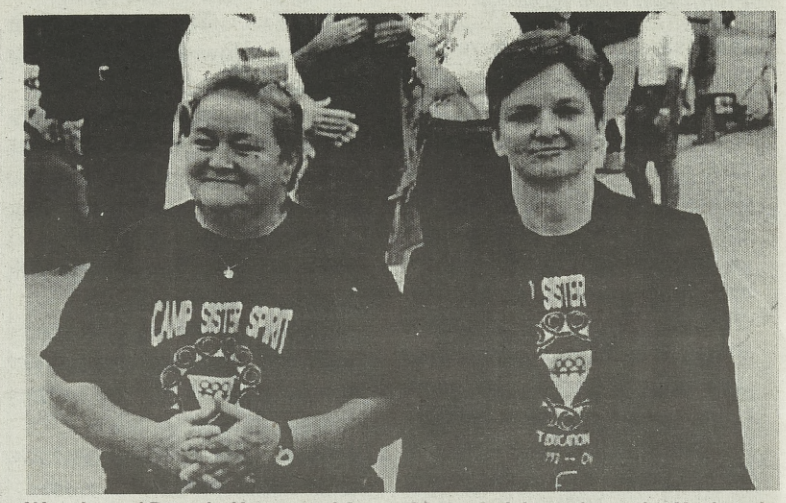
***Brenda and Wanda Henson** of Camp Sister Spirit spoke at the NCOD Rally and told the crowd to get off their butts and get active in the gay rights movement... Event organizer **Lucy Guillindo** is doing her part. How about you?

*Also on NCOD, **Michael Signorile** spoke at UC Davis for the week of gay pride festivities. It appears that the well known queer activist/author has some interesting ideas about gay life and loves to hear himself talk about them... tiresome.

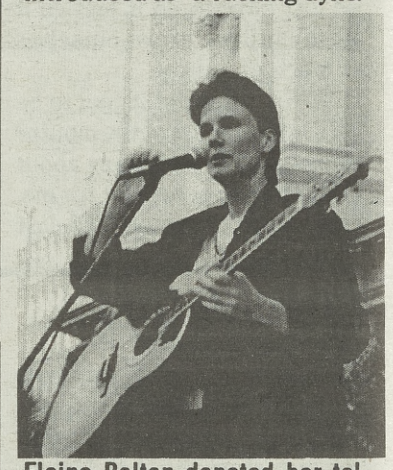
***FILM FEST** Hostess **Elbert DuBose** celebrated her B-Day on Oct. 5th with a male stripper bought courtesy of her frat sisters. By the way, the festival was greatly entertaining, although I must add three words of advice about cartoon leads for next year: preview, preview, preview...

*Congratulations to **Sonny** and **John Helm** on their 24th anniversary. And in addition John's book is in the process of being published.

*The fake fur is flying over at the **Court of the Great Northwest Imperial Empire.** Representatives of our Court embarked on a road trip to beautiful Fresno recently, where newly elected **Duke Maggie** was introduced as "a fucking dyke."



Wanda and Brenda Henson of Camp Sister Spirit spoke at the National Coming Out Rally.



Elaine Bolton donated her talents to the NCOD event.

When empress Racine expressed her regrets at the incident, Fresno's **Mary F. Kay**

continued on next page

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Socialites' wrote a letter to the editor, accusing Sacramento's representatives of being "thin-skinned, rude and downright pissy." Before this war of words gets any hotter, just let me quote Maggie's mom, "she may be butch, but she's no dyke..."

*October has been designated as **Gay and Lesbian History Month**. Education leads to knowledge, which in turn can lead to power. It's up to all of us to spread the truth about our lives. **Take power and vote.** We have a new Governor and a Secretary of State to elect.

*The **Lavender Underground** is presenting the "mother of women's music," **Alix Dobkin** on November 13. She's got quite a bit of herstory behind her and it's a must-see performance. Also, if you like to have women's music come to Sacramento you need to support **Kelly Conway** who is producing this event.

*Supporting community organizations and businesses is important! Businesses that support your civil rights should be thought of first when you are planning on where to shop, eat, or play. In the next edition of **the latest ISSUE** we will be producing a **"Shop til ya drop"** promotion that will give you a map of gay supportive businesses that would value your holiday dollar. **Keep the money in the family.** (And tell them that you saw their ad in ***the latest ISSUE***.)

*That great one-day storm that roared through Northern California on Oct .4th was brought to you by the late **Mark Baptista,** who passed away earlier this year. He was a weather aficionado who found Sacramento's climate rather boring. So he whipped up a squall on his birthday to remind everyone he still thinks of us...

*Tributes to **Kirby Johanson** have been pouring in. The late Imperial Crown Prince presided over Court events and shows to the very end. May he RIP.

*One more Halloween note...the **Lambda Center** will act as our community's Haunted House for the entire weekend of the 28th to the 31st, thanks to the **Valley Knights Motorcycle Club**. BOO!

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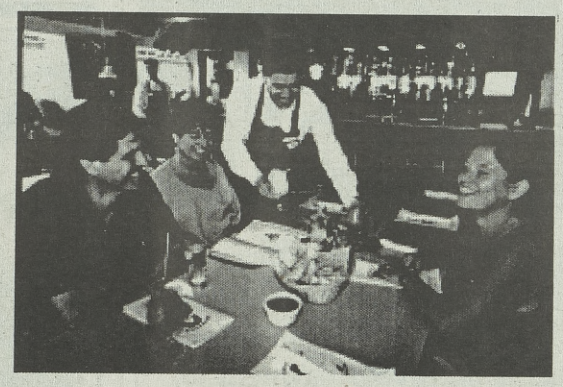
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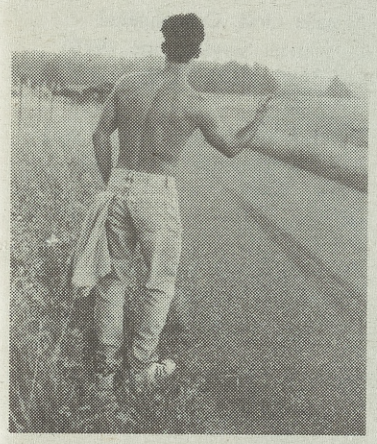
Sacramento/Russian River Personals

Instant Phone Contacts By Area Code — MANFINDER™

SACRAMENTO

Sacramento **GWM** 23, 5'9, 145, brn/brn seeks someone 25-35 height weight proportionate for good times- ☎4952



Sacramento **HMMM, WHAT COULD THAT BE?** 39 TS really enjoy bd, toys and other things- ☎4196

Sacramento **TRY ANYTHING:** gdlkg 6'6 190 vers hairy brn/ stache blue eyes, open to all scenes, trilingual- ☎5038

Sacramento **LETTING IT ALL HANG OUT:** Joe, 42 GWM 5'9 170 blu, must goatee, nudist, open minded, uninhibited, into new adv of all kinds- ☎5103

Fair Oaks **VOULEZ VOUS?** looking for other dudes to mess around with- like to get down and be french, service with a smile- ☎5266

Sacramento **ALL NEW:** new to the area, new with guys- no prior relationships- like campfires, hiking,music, pizza and beer, looking for a person to do things with and to love- ☎5506

Sacramento **SITCOMS:** Kenny, TV, TS like all kinds of situation, like to meet others like me, and bi-males- like to meet in my area- ☎6653

Citrus Heights **AND GIVE ME TEN:** Chris- want some more responses, dk hair must, 25 vergdlkg like to get down and take it - call me- ☎6699

Vacaville, **THE HILLS ARE ALIVE:** Edwin 5'3 102 , asian guy like singing, theatre, discos partying, mountain climbing, a lot more, like someone to talk to and be there ISO WM 25-35 blu/green, musc, height weight prptionate, sincere, romantic- ☎6792

Sacramento **BILL** 5'11, 170, brn/blu must hairy, tan work out regularly - looking to get together with some guys in the area- ☎7571

Sacramento **LIKE TO PEEL BANANAS:** 26, 5'1 brn/blk, vers, like 18-35, like kissing and hugging, affectionate kinda guy, - ☎7913

Chico **ROBERTO,** GHM, 6' 24, arts, musician, open minded, if int just give me a call- ☎8270

Newcastle **JOHN,** Man looking for lover, 53, latins, blacks a plus, ☎8395

408 Area Code **L'EGGS BENEDICT:** 45 Married male athletic and a beard- looking for another W married male single male 25-35 to fulfill a fantasy-to wear panty hose while speaking french- ☎3675

Fresno **RON** 20 like to meet guys and have fun give me a call! ☎2275

Stockton **PRISONERS OF LOVE:** Dennis -looking for big tall very strong black or hisp men ex-cons ok- I will obey and respect you, love you ,will take care of you ☎2537

Palo Alto **LIFE-LESS IN THE BURBS-** 26 WM 6'2 175 tall runners build nice guy anyone like me down here on the peninsula? if fun funny interested down to earth educ, like outdoors modern rock - call- ☎1967

Sacramento **GOOD OLE COUNTRY BOY-** 26 5'9 blnd/ blu horseback riding, country music, line dancing, cuddling,, romantic-you name it i'd like it! ☎2122

Sacramento **BE MY GARANIMAL:** GWM 32 outgoing bike riding, animals, cozy nights- not looking for Mr. perfect just someone who likes to have a great time, go places, camp, being close to someone, I'm non-drinker. ☎2126

Sacramento **I AM MR. RED:** Ray lking in my area 4 20-40 mature and built- I have red hair, 6'2 195 lkng for phys love and old enough to enjoy it- ☎29599

Sacramento **GM** 34 lking to meet new friends fun times poss rel- ☎2352

Roseville **IF AT FIRST YOU DON'T SUCCEED:** Dick older guy 50's 5'9 165 good shape looking for younger, smaller guys for hassle free adventurous rel-looking forward to meeting new friends, I'm open honest uninhibited, willing to try anything at least

Sacramento **ATHLETIC SUPPORTER:** Jeff 24 lkig to meet same age I'm 6'1 blu/brn, gdlkg, athletic, looking to meet other jock types into fun - ☎2555

Sacramento **WABBIT HUNTIN' SEASON!** just a country boy from the wilderness of Sacto like to meet someone who likes hunting,fishing, hiking, camping and 4 wheeling-call me! ☎2674

Sacramento **COME TO ORDER:** Btm 32 blnd hot lkg for aggr tp under 25 for discr meetings call me ☎3023

Sacramento **FRANCISCO,** 23, lkg to meet in my area-19-37 call me - peace- ☎34925

Sacramento **WE'LL HAVE A GAY OL' TIME:** 22 in great shape like to meet 18-35 for anything and everything- we'll have a good time- ☎3183

Sacramento **ON THE CASUAL SIDE:** Mike 5'10 170 work out 28 clean shaven good looking for someone to have some fun with nothing serious- ☎3448

Folsom **JOE** 32 5'11 165 gt shape, music, biking, like to meet some new guys18-40 ☎42656

Sacramento **TELL SANTA WHAT YOU WANT FOR CHRISTMAS:** CD enjoys being a sissy boy, baby girl or little girl looking for a nice lap- ☎2460

Sacramento **HARD HAT HARRY:** like skinny guys WM 6' 160 brn/blu healthy + construction worker seeking 18-40 skinny and smooth- ☎3681

Sacramento **WHAT KIND OF MOVIES, HMMMM?** Chris- 145, 5'9 blnd/blu late 30's like to meet masc aggr guy to get together party watch movies, str, bi hisp ok- like outdoors, like to be active, a variety of things- like to get to know you- ☎3709

Davis **IF-** you're Asian, in the Davis area, like white guys, stay up all night sleep all day spend the weekend and never get dressed, then call me- ☎4161

Carmichael **GWM** 33, 5'9 200 , dk blnd/blu smooth crewcut recently moved here- lkg for 30's hair body mustache, int in music, outdoors- if I sound good, let's get together- ☎4451

Tulare **NO BARFLIES:** GWM 30 masc seeks same not into bars, discreet. ☎4473

Tulare **MANHUNT:** GWM masculine seeks the same- 30 - not into bar scene- discreet ☎4473

Guerneville **THE BIGGER THE BETTER:** Ray 5'8 blnd/blu 140- looking to meet men that like to have a good time looking for dk hair tps- big naturally built. ☎4488

Sacramento **LET IT ALL HANG OUT:** Joe, 42 GWM red/blu must goatee 170 nudist, sexually uninhib like to meet 25-45 with same interests. ☎43017

Sacramento **ANYTIME WILL DO:** Mark looking for someone to play with during the day or at night. page me- lets see whats going on. ☎43107

Sacramento **SLY** 28 5'8 155, toned, built athl attr bi-curious lkng for more erotic times - like to hear from you- interesting good adventures- ☎1194

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Sacramento **COME OUT, WHEREVER YOU ARE:** John 41 bi male never been in a rel w/a man, I have fantasized about it, and its time to try it and see if its as good as I think it would be-if you're bi and new to the area, let's explore together- ☎2044

Sacramento **HEY SACRAMENTO!-** Couple 26 &28 looking for hot young in shape guys 18-25 if that's you -call! we're 5'6 &5'8 blndish brn hair looking to have some summer fun! ☎20044

Solano County **LOS HOMBRES:** Jim long haired GWM btm 27 5'11 145 get into macho hisp men ☎3178

Sacramento **DAYDREAMIN"** Bill- 25 gdlking 5'10 brn/brn kinda looking for gdlkg also pref must older around 30's. ☎3978

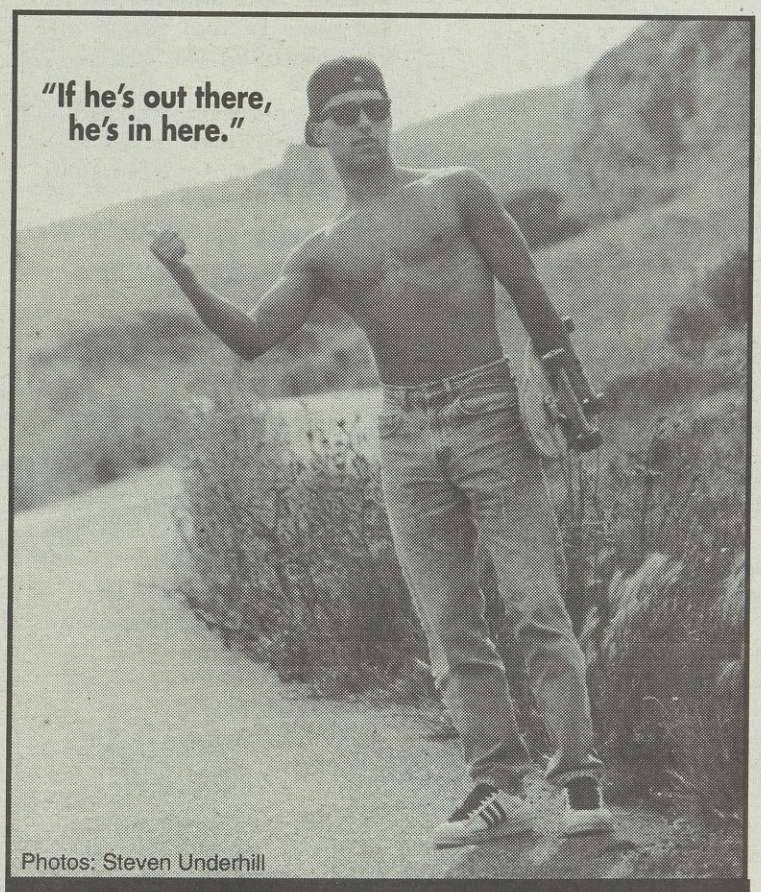
Sacramento **ROOM FOR ONE MORE:** GWM couple mid 30's looking to meet other couples. ☎1315

Sacramento **STEVE** 41 gdlkg- into almost anything-lkg for a man my age at least 38-45 into almost anything himself looking for rel- 5'10 185 dk/brn seeks other men. ☎1502

Sacramento **TURN YOUR HEAD AND COUGH:** Mike looking to get together with guys into doctor play- 6'2 185 brn/blu must great build- ☎6618

Sacramento **SO THAT'S WHERE YOUR TATTOO IS:** 42 GWM btm, nudist, 5'9 170 red/blu must, goatee, totally uninhibited- lets have fun- ☎8724

Sacramento **WE'LL RISE TO THE OCCASION:** my partner and I looking to meet other singles. My partner is a model here. I'm 40 brn geen. He's 29 blnd blu 5'10 see what comes up- ☎20828



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Andrew Last, Attorney, 2310 J Street, #C, Sacramento. (916) 446-5574.

M. Jane Pearce, 1409 28th Street, Suite 200, Sacramento. (916) 452-3883.

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Tickets available at the following ticket outlets: **Don't Panic in San Francisco (415) 553-8989**
Leather Masters in San Jose (408) 293-7660 · Mama Bears in Oakland (510) 428-9684.

To order by phone with credit card call 800-473-8658. Deadline for all ticket orders by phone is October 21, 1994. A PER TICKET SERVICE CHARGE WILL APPLY AT THE TICKET OUTLETS. FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL THREE SNAPS UP PRESENTS AT (800) 473-8658. Tickets will be sold at the Main Gate at Paramount's Great America after 6:30 p.m. on the night of the event for $30.95. Parking is $3.00 per vehicle payable at the Park's Toll Booths.

$1.00 from each ticket sold goes to Project Ellipse provided we meet our guaranteed minimum attendance of 3,000.